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PHAR Storage

THE AUSTRALASIAN
Journal of Pharmacy
With which is Incorporated
The Australasian Chemist and Druggist.
REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, MELBOURNE, FOR TRANSMISSION BY POST AS A NEWSPAPER.

TRADE MARK AD 1715
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P. A. T. A.

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Support the P.A.T.A.

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Adopted 1917.

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17—2

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THE AUSTRALASIAN Journal of Pharmacy

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No. 381.] SEPTEMBER 20TH, 1917. [VOL. XXXII.

Articles.

The Hypochlorites.

AN ENQUIRY INTO THE FORMULÆ OF SOLUTIONS OF HYPOCHLORITES USED IN SURGERY.

(By R. C. Cowley.)

Bleaching powder, or chlorinated lime, is the basic substance from which the different surgical solutions known under various names have come into use since the beginning of the war, or, rather, have been re-introduced. Its constitution remains unsettled, notwithstanding it has been subjected to numerous investigations during the last 70 years, or so. When acted upon by water a portion goes into solution, forming chloride and hypochlorite of calcium.

The quantity of available chlorine in bleaching powder is variable. Its composition is affected by the temperature at which the lime has been chlorinated, the purity of the lime, the amount of moisture in it at the time of chlorination, and the conditions under which it has been stored.

The British Pharmacopœia requires it to contain at least 30 per cent. of available chlorine, that is chlorine liberated on the addition of a mineral acid. Since on keeping, epecially if at all damp, some of the hypochlorite is converted into chlorate,

which itself liberates chlorine on addition of an acid. It is better if used for surgical purposes to estimate the amount of hypochlorites present against an N/10 alkaline solution of arsenious oxide, using as an indicator paper moistened with starch water and potassium iodide. This reaction is substantially as follows:—

$As_2O_3 + Ca^2ClO = As_2O_5 + CaCl_2$.

A solution of bleaching powder in water containing, when first prepared, 3 per cent. of available chlorine, is official. It should not be stored for long, as all solutions of hypochlorites deteriorate through loss of oxygen on keeping. There does not appear to be any particular reason why this solution when diluted should not be used in surgery. The best dilution appears to be that which contains 0.5 per cent. w/v of calcium hypochlorite. Its alkalinity is chiefly due to hydrolytic action of water on calcium hypochlorite, and to the small quantity of lime (CaO) in solution. Its comparative freedom from alkalinity should be an advantage.

HYPOCHLOROUS ACID.

A dilute solution of hypochlorous acid can be prepared in a variety of ways. For convenience it is best prepared by adding an exact quantity of a dilute mineral acid such as nitric acid to a solution of bleaching powder necessary to liberate the hypochlorous acid, but not the hydrochloric acid, for if the latter acid is set free it reacts with the hypochlorous acid to produce free chlorine. Hence, it is necessary to make a preliminary estimation by means of N/10 alkaline solution of arsenious acid of the calcium hypochlorite present.

Local supersaturation must be avoided to prevent liberation of chlorine. The most suitable acid for the purpose of liberating hypochlorous acid is boric acid, since it liberates hypochlorous acid fairly rapidly, and hydrochloric acid extremely slowly.

A mixture of bleaching powder and boric acid in equal proportions is known as "Eupad," and a solution of the soluble matter of 12.5 grams of bleaching powder, to which a solution of a similar quantity of boric acid is added and made up with water to a litre, is the well known Dakin's solution.

Borate of Calcium is soluble in a solution of calcium chloride, but a deposit forms on standing. Borates are of variable composition. This is explained by the fact that water causes hydrolysis forming compounds richer in B_2O_3. For example, boric acid is neutralised by sodium hydroxide in the presence of a substance that prevents hydrolysis to form a metaborate.

$H_3BO_3 + NaOH = NaBO_2 + {}^2H_2O$,

or

$^2H_3BO_3 + {}^2NaOH = Na_2O.\ B_2O_3 + {}^2HO$.

Glycerin in fairly large proportions has been found the most suitable for this purpose. When water alone is used the product contains double the quantity of B_2O_3, forming the compound which is familiarly known as borax.

$^4H_3BO_3 + {}^2NaOH = Na_2B_4O_7 + {}^7H_2O$.

or

$^4H_3BO_3 + {}^2NaOH = Na_2O.\ {}^2B_2O_3 + {}^7H_2O$.

Similarly calcium metaborate Ca_32BO_3 ($3CaO.\ B_2O_3$) is hydrolised by water with liberation of calcium hydroxide, and forms compounds richer in B_2O_3, e.g., $CaO.\ {}^2B_2O_3$; $CaO.\ {}^3B_2O_3$, etc.

Dakin's solution is very unstable. It should be freshly prepared and adjusted to contain a definite quantity of hypochlorous acid. Analytical control of all these preparations cannot be too strongly urged, since their value as germicides depends upon the amount of oxygen they are capable of liberating when in contact with oxidisable organic matter. Surgeons should insist on this, for without proper control tests they may be useless. By nature of its constitution, Dakin's Solution should be rapid in action.

LIQUOR SODA CHLORINATE, B.P.

Some years ago (1906) the writer pointed out that the quantity of sodium carbonate in the B.P. formula was too small to precipitate the whole of the lime in solution. It should be increased to double the weight of the chlorinated lime in the formula. The 1914 B.P. gives the same formula as that of 1898. Actually the soluble matter in the lime compound requires much more sodium carbonate for complete precipitation, but when the sodium carbonate and chlorinated lime are mixed as in the manner prescribed in the

official formula chemical action is never complete. When the proportions of lime compound and carbonate of soda are 50 and 100 respectively, as the writer suggests, it is found that when operating with a bleaching powder containing 30.6 per cent. of available chlorine, there is no excess of lime or of sodium carbonate in the product. An extent of alkalisation of the sodium carbonate is, however, produced that would probably be deleterious in treating wounds. Working with the following formula, the amount of sodium hydroxide in the product amounted to 17.6 grms. per litre:—

Bleaching powder, 50 grams.

Sodium carbonate ($Na_2CO_3{}^{10}H_2O$), 100 grms. Triturate the bleaching powder with a solution of the sodium carbonate, make up to 1 litre, allow to stand 12 hours, filter and make up to 1 litre by passing water through the filter.

The amount of sodium hypochlorite and of sodium hydroxide can be estimated in the same volume of solution.

5 c.c. are placed in a dish and titrated with an N/10 alkaline solution of As_2O_3, to determine the amount of sodium hypochlorite present, sodium carbonate being, of course, the alkaline salt used for dissolving the arsenious oxide. When the action is complete this liquid is poured into a 100 c.c. flask, the dish is rinsed with recently boiled water into the flask; 10 c.c. of N barium chloride solution is added to precipitate the carbonate, finally the liquid in the flask is made up to 100 c.c. with boiled water. After standing sufficiently long to precipitate the carbonate of barium, 50 c.c. are taken and titrated with N/10 hydrochloric acid. The result is rather low, but is a sufficiently close approximation to show that undue alkalisation of the sodium carbonate occurs.

The question now arose as to the best means of neutralising the free alkali. Both boric acid and sodium bicarbonate suggested themselves. It is interesting to note here that some formulæ for surgical solution of sodium hypochlorite contain boric acid, but it does not appear that the originators were clear in their minds as to the true reason for the addition. The addition of boric acid was a happy hit, but without some method of determining the quantity of free alkali present, it is not possible to adjust the proportion of boric acid correctly. Any excess would liberate hypochlorous acid and render the solution less stable. Alkaline hypochlorites are well known to be more stable in solution than hypochlorous acid; indeed, they require very prolonged boiling to convert them completely into chloride and chlorate. Exposure to light has a similar effect. Just about this time the writer's attention was drawn to a paper in the Proceedings of the Royal Society of Medicine, Vol. 10, No. 1, November, 1916, by W. O'Neil Sherman, M.D., in which he describes Daufresne's modification of Dakin's solution. This is in reality a solution of sodium hypochlorite made by the following formula:—

Bleaching powder (25 per cent. available chlorine), 20 grams.
Sodium carbonate, dry (Soda of Solway), 10 grams.
Sodium bicarbonate, 80 grams.
Water to a sufficient quantity to produce a solution containing 0.5 to 0.6 per cent. of available chlorine estimated by the B.P. method.

The process is substantially that of the B.P., and the product is said, by the author, to be neutral. It is difficult to see how this statement can be correct; the amount of alkaline salts is practically the same as that recommended by the writer under sodium hypochlorite. This appears to be the best of the process already published for the preparation of solution of chlorinated soda. The chief objection lies in the rigidity of the formula, seeing that bleaching powder is so variable a product. Bearing this in mind, the writer set out to draft a formula which will accommodate itself to the variations in the constitution of the bleaching powder, and at the same time will produce a neutral solution or one approximately so.

This necessitated dissolving the bleaching powder in water: filtering, estimating the amount of lime compounds in solution and adding the exact amount of sodium carbonate to precipitate the lime, finally adjusting the liquid to contain 0·5 per cent. of sodium hypochlorite. The method finally adopted was as follows:—

Bleaching powder, 50 grams.
Sodium carbonate, a sufficient quantity
Water, a sufficient quantity.

Triturate the bleaching powder in a mortar with 500 c.c. of the water, transfer to a bottle, shake well from time to time and allow to stand for 12 hours; filter and pass water through the filter to make up to 500 c.c. Dissolve 200 grams of crystallised sodium carbonate (washing soda) in water, make up to 1 litre.

To 20 c.c. of the bleaching powder solution in a porcelain dish add 10 c.c. of dilute hydrochloric acid; boil until all the chlorine has been expelled; add 2 drops of solution of methyl orange, and run in from a burette the solution of sodium carbonate until the red colour of the methyl orange is destroyed. This is solely for the purpose of exactly neutralising the liquid, and the volume of sodium carbonate solution used is ignored. Continue to boil to expel the CO_2. When this is accomplished add a few drops of phenolphthalein solution, and continue to run in the sodium carbonate solution until the liquid acquires a pink colour. The volume of sodium carbonate solution run in after adding the phenolphthalein represents that required to precipitate the soluble lime salts in 20 c.c. of this solution. From this calculate the volume required for the other 480 c.c. of solution of bleaching powder. Mix these together, allow to stand, when most of the clear solution may be poured off, filter the remainder and pass some water through the filter. Determine the amount of sodium hypochlorite in the solution by the alkaline arsenious oxide method, and add water to adjust the amount to 0.5 per cent. w/v.

The quantity of free alkali in this solution is so extremely small as to be of no significance. As sodium hypochlorite is hydrolysed by water to some extent the solution will afford an alkaline reaction.

The above solution is strongly hypertonic, being equivalent to 7.5 times that of an isotonic solution. While it is highly probable that this solution, when diluted in the proportion of 1 to 7.5 would be quite suitable for treating aseptic wounds, it would not have sufficient germicidal power to render a wound aseptic.

LIQUOR ALUMINII HYPOCHLORITIS.

The use of this substance as an antiseptic is by no means new. It was the subject of a patent in the year 1860. It may be prepared as follows:—

Mix 50 grams of bleaching powder with 500 c.c. of water, filter and pass sufficient water through the filter to make up to 500 c.c. Dissolve the exact quantity of aluminium sulphate, $Al_2{}^3SO_4$, $^{18}H_2O$ in 500 c.c. of water, mix, allow to stand until precipitation is complete, pour off the clear liquid, filter the remainder, and adjust the liquid after titration with N/10 alkaline As_2O_3 solution to contain 0.5 per cent. w/v of available aluminium hypochlorite.

To find the exact quantity of $Al_2{}^3SO_4$, $^{18}H_2O$, proceed exactly as described under the formula recommended above for making solution of sodium hypochlorite, using this time N/1 solution of sodium carbonate, e.g., in an experiment it was found that 20 c.c. of the bleaching powder solution required for complete precipitation of the lime in solution 9 c.c. of N/1 Na_2CO_3. Therefore:

20 c.c. bleaching powder solution = 9 c.c. N/1 Na_2CO_3.

100 c.c. bleaching powder solution = 45 c.c. N/1 Na_2CO_3.

500 c.c. bleaching powder solution = 225 c.c. N/1 Na_2CO_3.

3 Na_2CO_3 = $Al_2{}^3SO_4$, $^{18}H_2O$.

106 × 3 = 666

106 = 222

53

1000 c.c. = 111

1 c.c. = .111

225 cc. = .111 × 225 = 247.5 grams of $Al_2{}^3SO_4$ $^{18}H_2O$, the quantity required.

Solution of aluminium hypochlorite has not, to the knowledge of the writer, been used in the treatment of wounds in recent years. Other aluminium salts have been used, particularly the acetate. Aluminium hypochlorite is put forward by the writer as a suggestion. Since alumina is a weak base, this salt is more readily hydrolysed than sodium hypochlorite, and hence it will not be so stable.

Determination of Aspirin and Sodium Salicylate in Powders.

(By Reginald Miller, Chemical Laboratory, New York City, Department of Health.

Among samples received at the laboratory were those consisting of aspirin and sodium salicylate. The following method

has been found satisfactory, and its publication may assist others who are doing similar work.

Aspirin.—Weigh the collective contents of several packages, mix thoroughly. (If sample is not a fine powder, grind it in a mortar until it is.) Take a weighed portion corresponding to that of one package, transfer to a small beaker, add an equal volume of clean sand, and 8 or 10 mils of ethyl ether, stir the mass with a glass rod, allow to settle, decant through a small dry filter paper, repeat the extraction about ten times, collect the filtrates in a weighed glass dish, evaporate to dryness. Weigh[1].

Residue should respond to the following tests:—

Conc. nitric acid — yellow, gradually deeper.

Froede's reagent—immediate purple coloration.

Formaldehyde sulphuric acid—faint red colour after one or two minutes.

Selenious sulphuric acid—No change in colour.

Conc. sodium hydroxide—No change in colour.

Sodium Salicylate.—To the beaker containing the sand and the portion insoluble in ether, transfer the filter paper (that was used in aspirin determination) and dilute sulphuric acid (about 10 per cent.), until the mass is moistened throughout.[2] repeatedly extract with ethyl ether, making about twelve extractions, filter through a dry filter paper and collect filtrates in a weighed glass dish. Evaporate to dryness, weigh the residue, which is salicylic acid[3].

Ferric chloride added to an aqueous solution gives a bluish violet colouration.

A small portion of salicylic acid heated with several drops of methyl alcohol and sulphuric acid (conc.) will give the characteristic wintergreen odor.

Sodium Salicylate is computed from the salicylic acid by multiplying by the factor 1.1651, which gives U.S.P. sodium salicylate of 99.5 per cent. purity, or by the factor 1.1593, which gives C.P. sodium salicylate. — *American Journal of Pharmacy*, August, 1917.

1. The aspirin may be checked by taking a weighed portion of the original sample (about .100 G.), dissolve it in 95 per cent. alcohol (neutral), and titrate it with sodium hydroxide, using phenolphthalein as the indicator. One mil of sodium hydroxide = .0180 G. of aspirin. If substances are present, which interfere with the determination directly on the powder, take a weighed portion of the residue (about .050 G.), and titrate with the alkali.

2. The sulphuric acid must be in excess, in order to completely decompose the sodium salicylate.

3. The salicylic acid may be checked by titration, using barium hydroxide and phenolphthalein as the indicator. One mil of barium hydroxide = .013805 G. pure salicylic acid.

Abstracts.

The Teaching of Pharmacology.

(Abstracts from *The Medical Journal of Australia*, 15th September, 1917.)

A medical school is usually regarded as being incomplete if every important branch of medical training is not represented by a self-contained department. In accordance with modern conceptions, there should be separate departments of anatomy, zoology, physiology, botany, physics, chemistry, bio-chemistry, pharmacology, including materia medica, pathology, bacteriology, and parasitology, hygiene, medicine and surgery. . . . The professors of the faculty of medicine should therefore number thirteen. The history of the medical schools of universities reveals that the establishment of these several essential departments has taken place gradually. In the University of Sydney some of the medical chairs are of recent date, while others have yet to be instituted. For several years it has been recognised that the sciences included under the collective term of pharmacology should command a chair. We understand that two reasons have been active in causing delay in its establishment. The first is the financial one, and the second and more important is the fact that a suitable occupant was apparently not available. Many years ago a temporary expedient was adopted by the appointment of a lecturer in pharmacology, whose duties included the holding of courses for students of pharmacy. . . . The temporary arrangements, like other temporary arrangements, served to tide over a difficulty. The Faculty were forced sooner or later to find a permanent solution. It is understood that the Pharmacy Board has precipitated the matter, and that the decision has been still further hastened by the resignation of Dr. Chapman from his position as Assistant Professor of Physiology. The Pharmacy Board approached the Minister of Public Instruction with a request to establish at the Technical College a school of pharmacy, where pharmaceutical students could receive their courses of instruction. This proposal naturally would arouse considerable opposition, since, by the removal of these students from the University, their standard of technical education would be lowered in view of the fact that the facilities for scientific training at the College would be inferior to those existing at the University. The obvious reply is, therefore, the

proposal for the establishment of a chair of pharmacology. The Senate will have to determine whether this proposal is a practical one. In the first place, it will be necessary for the Senate to provide a sufficient sum of money annually for the foundation of this chair. The amount needed is not likely to be a large one, in view of the fact that certain sums will be saved by the altered arrangements. The State has long since recognised its duty to the public of providing for medical education at the University, and this additional expense must be regarded as a normal increase, rendered necessary by the steady growth of a valuable national asset. Were the times normal, the State would be required to provide a considerably larger increase in the annual subsidy, to enable the Senate to establish other desirable chairs. The next point that requires the attention of the Senate is the selection of a professor and a definition of the duties devolving on him. There is urgent need to raise the preliminary standard of education of pharmaceutical chemists, and for this reason the professor should be required to include among his class pharmaceutical students who would be required to pass the school-leaving certificate examination and to attend courses in pharmacy, inorganic and organic chemistry, botany and materia medica. Medical students should look to the Professor of Pharmacology for tuition in pharmacology and bio-chemistry, as well as in toxicology and materia medica.

Science and Industry.

Advisory Council of Science and Industry.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Hughes) has approved of the appointment of the following gentlemen to be members of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Advisory Council of Science and Industry: — Major J. Douglas Stewart, director of veterinary services, professor of veterinary science in the University of Sydney; Mr. W. Russell Grimwade, managing director of Messrs. Felton, Grimwade, and Co.; and Mr. A. E. V. Richardson, agricultural superintendent Victorian Department of Agriculture. The Executive Committee previously consisted of seven members, with the Prime Minister as chairman.

Australian Chemical Institute.

The first annual meeting of the Victorian branch of the Australian Chemical Institute was held on September 6. The branch, which has a membership of more than 130, has been in existence for about 18 months, and a provisional committee, with Professor Masson as chairman, has been acting. The institute, which is open to all qualified chemists, employers or employed, has for its object the raising of the status of chemists, and it is hoped that a social side will also be developed. After January 1, 1918, it is proposed to restrict admission to (a) university graduates, (b) those holding a diploma from a recognised school of mines, and (c) those who pass an examination set by the institute. So far the only grade recognised within the institute is that of "member." A proposal submitted last night to have both "associates" and "members" was referred to the general council. It is probable that a third grade, that of fellowship, will be established later on. An election of office-bearers was held in connection with the meeting, with the following result: — President, Professor Masson (unopposed); treasurer, Mr. E. S. Richards; secretary, Dr. F. H. Campbell; committee, Messrs. B. G. Anderson, W. F. Cumming, C. F. Dawes, and R. J. Fletcher.

Several pharmacists are applying to be admitted members of the Institute. Forms of application may be obtained from the Secretary of any State branch at the following addresses:—

New South Wales.—B. J. Smart, B.Sc., c/o Royal Society, 5 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.
Victoria.—F. H. Campbell, D.Sc., 475 Collins Street, Melbourne.
Queensland.—T. McCall, F.I.C., c/o Government Chemical Laboratory, Brisbane.
South Australia.—E. C. Wood, M.A., 79 Currie Street, Adelaide.

Eucalyptus Oil Industry.

The Advisory Council of Science and Industry has given attention lately to the question of eucalyptus distillation. The Prime Minister (Mr. Hughes) stated yesterday that several suggestions had been received as to the possibility of using some of the by-products of this industry. The ash left after burning the leaves and twigs from which the oil has been distilled contains a considerable percentage of potash, and inquiry is being made as to the percentage of potash contained in different samples of this ash and the possibility of using it as a fertiliser. The question of the black liquor obtained in distillation, and the possibility that it contains valuable ingredients, is also being made the subject of inquiry.

Power Alcohol.

An interesting paper on Power Alcohol, with particular reference to the necessity for its extended production in Australia, was read before the Victorian Society of Chemical Industry on September 1, by Mr. Russell Grimwade, B.Sc. The lecturer stated that the substitution of a locally produced fuel for internal combustion engines for the imported petrol and mineral oil products was one of the most important economic questions that the Commonwealth had before it. Although Australia was far removed from the world's mineral oil deposits, it compared favourably with any other country in its essentials for the production of alcohol. Australia was now importing 20,000,000 gallons annually of volatile mineral fuels, valued at £1,500,000 at the port of shipment. These figures were exclusive of over 20,000,000 gallons of kerosene, valued at £600,000. Alcohol engines were more than past the experimental stage, and could and would be produced of high efficiency when the wholesale supply of alcohol was assured. The supply of alcohol was the real problem. Until chemistry had advanced, and alcohol could be made from cellulose, so that wood waste and prickly pear could be used, we were depen-

dent upon food products, either starches or sugars. Under present conditions, the starches were the cheaper source. Waste molasses in Australia were a valuable immediate source for alcohol, but would only provide sufficient for one State's requirements. Maize would produce close on 100 gallons per acre, with a raw material cost of under 1s. 8d. per gallon. The present cost of petrol was 2s. 10d. per gallon. Sorghum was indicated as being a most valuable crop for alcohol production, as it yielded 230 gallons per acre on an average crop. The necessary denaturation of the alcohol was an artificial barrier, imposed on the free use of this valuable chemical, and until a more liberal attitude was adopted by the Government a very grave restriction was put in the way of keeping a huge amount of money in the country.

Alcohol Percentages.

Mr. Greene (for Sir Robert Best) asked the Prime Minister, in the House of Representatives on August 17, upon notice—

1. Is it a fact that to carry out the recently expressed views of the Advisory Council of Science and Industry would mean the substitution of the legally established and convenient "proof gallon," as universally used in the British Empire, by a system of "absolute alcohol percentages" based on the method enforced by the German Government, and that this proposal, if given effect to, would lead to serious dislocation and confusion in industry and trade with no commensurate result?

2. Is it a fact that the Government of the United States of America, for a period of fifteen years prior to 1866, had in force a fiscal alcohol system based on that of the German Government and corresponding to that now proposed by the Advisory Council?

3. Is it a fact that the Government of the United States of America, in 1866, on the advice and recommendation of a Committee of the National Academy of Sciences, adopted the "proof-gallon" as a standard of reference instead of alcohol "on the ground that the price was habitually referred to proof, and the fact that there is no sacrifice of scientific precision when the relation of the proof standard to standard alcohol is positively defined," and has retained the proof-gallon ever since?

4. Is it a fact that the British Government issued official tables of great accuracy, published as recently as the year 1916, for ascertaining the strength of spirits, and in which the precise relationship between the terms "proof-spirit," "specific gravity," "percentages of alcohol by weight and by volume," are minutely defined?

5. If the foregoing questions are answered in the affirmative, and if it is a fact that the present standard "proof-gallon," based on and developed by the British people through practical use, has stood the test of time, convenience, and adaptability to the trade, is the Prime Minister prepared to seriously entertain the proposals of the Advisory Council for Science and Industry?

Mr. Hughes.—The Advisory Council has, I understand, been making some investigations into the matter. No official recommendation has been made by them, but, if such recommendation is made, I shall consider it in the light of the honorable member's statements.

Dental.

Dental Board of Victoria.

The Board met on August 3rd.

The President (Mr. A. L. Elvins J.P.), occupied the chair. Also present—Major Hall, Dr. Lewis, Dr. Yule.

Registration as a Dentist.—Alan Philp Reade Lane, B.D.S., Sydney University, applied for registration as a dentist. He appeared in person, and produced his diploma and credentials. Application granted.

The "Unrecorded" Association.—With respect to the claim made by the "Unrecorded Association," the Board very carefully considered the statements made and evidence adduced by their representatives at the recent interview with the Board. The association had requested the Board's support for a further amendment of the Dentists' Act, 1910, so as to enable those who had earned a livelihood at surgical and mechanical dentistry for a period of at least three years immediately prior to the commencement of the Dentists' Act, 1910, to be recorded, but who were then debarred as being under 21 years of age. The Board were of opinion that the persons referred to had no valid claim to be "recorded," and therefore they were unable to comply with the request for the Board's support to the proposed further amendment of the Dentists' Act of Victoria.

Letter to Minister for Defence.—The President was authorised to write to the Minister for Defence for a personal interview with him so as to bring under the Minister's notice the necessity for fuller recognition of dental service both abroad and at home.

The Board adjourned.

The Board met on August 17th.

The President (Mr. A. L. Elvins, J.P.), occupied the chair. Also present—Major Hall, Dr. Lewis, Dr. Yule.

A case of alleged infringement of the provisions of the Dentists' Acts was brought under the notice of the Board, and the Registrar was instructed to make immediate enquiry with respect thereto.

A further case in the country was referred by the Board to their local representatives for investigation.

Arrangements were made for holding the annual examination in Histology, 2nd year, L.D.S. and B.D.Sc., on the 28th of August, 1917, and the examiners were appointed.

The copy of the amended Act regulating the practice of dentistry in California, U.S.A., was received.

The Board adjourned.

E. Joske, LL.B., Registrar.

Formulary.

From the American Druggist.

Mange Ointment.

Yellow iodide of mercury	20 grains
Salicylic acid	4 drams
Sublimed sulphur	3 ounces
Pine tar	3 ounces
Yellow petrolatum, to make	2 pounds

This is to be applied at night to affected parts, and washed off in the morning.

Hand Lotions.

Tincture of benzoin	2 fluidrams
Alcohol	3 fluidounces
Extract of witch hazel	3 fluidounces
Orange flower water	4 fluidounces
Magnesium carbonate	sufficient

Mix the alcohol and the aqueous solutions. Then add the tincture, a few drops at a time, shaking thoroughly after each addition. Finally add the carbonate, shake thoroughly, let stand a day or so, and filter. The result is a brilliant yellow liquid of an exceedingly pleasing odour.

Bath Powder.

Powdered white soap	200 grams
Dried sodium carbonate	15 grams
Powdered orris root	70 grams
Almond meal	100 grams
Oil of bergamot	1.5 mil
Oil of neroli	1.0 mil
Oil of clove	.5 mil

Mix thoroughly and keep in a warm place in well-sealed glass containers until ready to dispense.

Nasal Ointment.

The following soothing ointment is a favourite with a well-known Philadelphia nose and throat specialist:—

Menthol	gr. iii
Camphor	gr. iv
Ichthyol	gr. xx
Oil of neroli, bigarade	mii
Cold cream (U. S. P.), to make	℥i

The prescriber insists on having this compounded with the official cold cream, claiming, with justification, that it is far superior in this particular case to cold creams made from mineral oil.

Chap Pomades.

I.

Salol	½ ounce
Peach kernel oil	8 ounces
White wax	4 ounces
Mutton suet, to make	1 pound
Eosin solution	a sufficient quantity
Oil of neroli	35 minims

Melt the wax and the suet in the oil, using the least degree of heat that is necessary. Add the salol and stir gently until nearly cool. Then incorporate the colour, just enough to impart to the cream a hint of pink, and finally add the perfume.

II.

Phenol crystals	gr. xv
Thymol	gr. xv
Menthol	gr. x
Anhydrous wool fat	℥ss
Cold cream, U. S. P.	℥iss

Mix. Apply locally morning and night.

Emulsions of Oleum Rusci.

I.

Rectified oil of birch tar	5 fluidrams
Green soap, U. S. P.	2½ drams
Distilled water, to make	4 fluidounces

II.

Rectified oil of birch tar	5 fluidrams
Yolk of	1 egg
Fluidextract of quillaja	1 fluidram
Distilled water, to make	4 fluidounces

Oleum Rusci or Oleum betulæ empyreumaticum rectificatum is official in the new National Formulary, and is intended to replace the oil of cade of former editions. It is used in the preparation of the compound resorcinol ointment.

Label Varnish.

This excellent label varnish was discovered accidentally while experimenting on another combination of its ingredients. It is practically colorless, and has been used as a protective film on white porcelain ointment jars that had the label painted directly on the glazed surface. It is satisfactory in every respect.

Refined oil of soya bean	5 grams
White shellac (powdered)	sufficient
Denatured alcohol, to make	100 grams

Into a tarred wide mouth glass jar graduated at the 100 mil mark put enough powdered white shellac to reach the mark, and pour on enough alcohol to come to the level of the shellac. Shake thoroughly, and if the solution is too thick add more alcohol until the weight is 95 grams. Then add 5 grams of the oil of soya bean. Shake thoroughly. The addition of 1 per cent. of boric acid to this varnish will cause it to adhere firmly to glazed surfaces.

Shampoo Powder.

Potassium carbonate	2 ounces
Powdered borax	2 ounces
Powdered castile soap	½ ounce
Oil of neroli, bigarrade	15 drops

Dispense in wide mouth bottles or sealed tin cans, and label thus: Dissolve two tablespoonfuls in a quart of soft water and use as shampoo.

Antiseptic Liquid Shampoo.

Liquor cresolis comp.	1 fluidounce
Oil of bay	15 drops
Tincture of green soap, to make	1 quart
Oil soluble chlorophyll	Enough to colour

Mix, filter with the aid of talc. The alcoholic strength of the tincture of green soap should not exceed 50 per cent.

Russian Pharmacy.

Exclusive Correspondence of "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy."

Patents and Trade Marks.

PETROGRAD, June 22nd, 1917.

For a long time Russian patent-right legislation has stood in direct opposition to the legislation of other Powers. Its principle is that it is impossible to grant exclusive exemptions and privileges to a person or a firm for the preparation and sale of articles of absolute necessity. The right to obtain a patent in Russia for such articles is excluded. In other countries this humane view is not adopted. There anything, without exception, may be patented. The Russian Medical Council, in permitting the importation of foreign patented preparations, insists that these products may be prepared in Russia under the same name, with the indication only of the place and the firm where and by which they are made. The Industries Section of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, in granting patents for trade marks, also holds to that attitude, rejecting, however, the right of claim to the word in its phonetic sense. Thus, everyone desiring to prepare any pharmaceutical or food product has the right to do so, provided he uses the same name as the corresponding foreign product abroad. Until quite recently the trade mark in Russia is recognised not in the phonetic sense of the words, but in its written form, known as the trade-mark. However, in recent decisions of the Senate, quite a different reading of the law is adopted. The Senate recognises the right to a trade-mark in its phonetic sense, considering that the name is one of the distinguishing features of the complete trade-mark. Thus, all preceding circulars of the Chief Medical Inspector must be considered as inoperative, and before the Russian industrialist there stands the dilemma of giving new and recognised marks to his product, or subjecting himself to the risk of an action for damages, or even of imprisonment.

Russian legislation, which does not fix any requirements in respect to the nomenclature of pharmaceutical preparations, puts this branch of industry into an extraordinarily difficult position. As a matter of fact, in all other branches, the phonetic trade sign is only a distinctive mark of the firm; for example, "Kolumb," "Treugolnik" and "Bogatyr"—all these are goloshes, but in pharmacy it is otherwise. Who knows what the many trade names for antipyrin mean? An impossible confusion and indefiniteness in the position arises requiring special perception and care. Frequently synonyms are used that lead to misapprehension, and to the belief that the goods they represent are quite different. It is impossible to admit these varied forms into the nomenclature of medical preparations. It should be an indispensable rule that the application of scientific terms to medicaments should only be permitted if the synonyms are approved by the Medical Council, in agreement with the Chief Medical Board, or other competent body. At the present time a clearly absurd position exists. To patent a particular method of manufacturing any kind of product is impossible. On the other hand, one may keep the title and in that way close the approach to it. Further, the law recognises the right to strengthen the word as a trade mark or combined letter and sign. The right to a patented word constitutes of itself the right of a patent in the product. Custom is being therefore diametrically opposed to humanity in this case. This represents the spirit of our legislation, which endeavours to retain for all the right of preparation of goods of first necessity, without any limitations.

It is possible that one of the causes of this peculiar exploitation of the significance of the trade mark is that questions of the infringement of rights in trade marks are not dealt with by the civil courts, which are the more competent; but by criminal courts. The trial for infringement is first subjected to criminal procedure and then to a civil judgment. From all the foregoing the necessity becomes obvious for:—

(1) A change in the status of the law on trade marks in the sense of the prohibition of the right of patent in the name of food chemistry;

(2) The permission to use synonyms that enter into the general consumption of all, with the obligation to show the name of the firm, and the place where produced, on the label;

(3) The establishment of uniformity in the nomenclature of medical and food stuffs, with the obligation to have a scientific name along with the synonym; and, where such does not exist, a statement of the constituents of the preparation;

(4) The transfer of litigation respecting infringement of the law on trade marks to the civil jurisdiction.

All these measures should be introduced without fail now, during wartime, in order that on the conclusion of peace all may not be lost that has been brought about in Russia with such care and effort in recent times.

These observations, which were written during the old regime, all the same acquire significance now when tranquility has been disturbed, and in its place constructive principles are being introduced in all directions. Meantime, the work is proceeding; but the time is not far off when an explanation of the results of work done during the war of emancipation will have to be given. We must be ready for that time.

An Advantage.

In legislative matters the doctors have a decided advantage over the pharmacists in the fact that the physicians are apparently united in whatever they try to accomplish, while the druggists, through their various organisations, not infrequently present a divided front. It is gratifying to know that the seriousness of the situation is realised and that efforts are being made to have the conditions changed.—*Spatula*, July, 1917.

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Editorial.

A House Divided.

"Shall we be hanged separately or altogether?" In this terse sentence a leading American pharmacist recently summed up the position of pharmacy in the United States. The moral in the question is that pharmacists as a body are influentially weak when compared with other classes in the community, but that when allied with those departments of business activity whose interests impinge on their own, they are potentially strong.

This *dictum* is capable of logical and even material proof. First of all, consider the relations subsisting between employers and assistants. In few other callings is the relationship so intimate. Bound up in this relationship is the knowledge on the part of the assistant that ultimately he will become a master pharmacist, and that the conditions he imposes to-day as an assistant may have a reflex action upon him to-morrow as a master pharmacist. Here there is a community of interests which, with mutual fairness and respect on both sides, should produce influences tending in the direction of unity and cohesion.

A more difficult problem arises in dealing with the position as between wholesaler and retailer. There are diverging interests, not always capable of harmonious adjustment, yet there are many points of affinity and contact which open the way for a more tangible co-operation between the two sections than has existed hitherto. This was recently pointed out by Mr. T. E. Lescher in an admirable address to the members of the Liverpool Chemists' Association. Mr. Lescher referred to the fellow-studentship in many cases of the wholesale druggist and pharmacist, their general community of knowledge and experience in all subjects and interests pertaining to practical pharmacy, and the mutual confidence necessarily begotten and fostered between the two sections of the craft by the nature of the business, which demands mutual good faith and efficiency. There are many intimate friendships existing between members of the wholesale houses and retail pharmacists. Influences of this nature could and should be used to bring about a better understanding — a closer working partnership—between the two bodies, particularly when their mutual rights and interests are assailed.

The medical profession also has many things in common with pharmacy. State interference, nationalisation, underpayment by lodges, intrusion into the domain of medicine by quacks and other untrained traders, are a few questions which immediately occur to the mind upon which combined action would be advantageous. Happily, advances have been made in the direction of a union of forces in some of these matters, and with a spirit of compromise on both sides, such as was evinced at the recent conferences between the British Medical Association and pharmacists in Victoria, there is no reason why the

good feeling which exists should not be further extended.

Possibly more difficulty exists in enlisting the co-operation of the manufacturers of proprietary medicines. But if a line of demarcation be drawn between the legitimate manufacturer and the one who is merely out to fleece the public, mutual advantage should accrue from a consolidation of business interests. Most of the principal houses are amenable to reason, and whilst business considerations cause them to seek that market which is most extensive and most profitable, they are always ready to acknowledge the assistance which pharmacists can render. Their co-operation in connection with the P.A.T.A. indicates a willingness to study the welfare of the retailer. The manufacturers are a strong combination when united in opposing a common danger. There are occasions when retailers can help them, and *vice versa* the influence of the manufacturer could become a potent factor in improving the conditions of the pharmacist.

At times, it may be necessary to unite the combined assistance and support of all vendors of medicine. Matters arise from time to time which almost of necessity demand united action. The pharmacist cannot afford to plough a lone furrow. He must perforce ally himself with other combinations when his interests are affected. And in many cases he can do so with mutual interest and profit. The practice of medicine, in its professional as well as its business aspects, is forever being assailed in one direction or another, and unless all those who are interested pull together the welfare of all is more or less adversely affected. There is far more possibility of each section being attacked and hanged separately than in combination. A broader outlook and a policy of mutual give and take should be productive of good results for all concerned. It is certainly worth a trial.

Sale of Medicated Wines.

Representations have been made by some of the temperance organisations to the Government that the sale of medicated tonic wines by pharmacists has very largely increased since the early closing of hotels has been in force. As this may cause some action by the authorities, pharmacists should be on their guard not to unwittingly bring themselves within the provision of the law. Certain manufacturers of so-called tonic wines are freely advertising that their products are obtainable from hotels, licensed grocers, and chemists. This in itself would be used as evidence in any case which might be instituted.

Many pharmacists are concerned lest the present position of affairs may not lead to the curtailment of the privilege which pharmacists now enjoy under the special provision in the Licensing Act. Supreme Court decisions have laid it down clearly that pharmacists do not enjoy any prescriptive right to sell alcoholic preparations under all circumstances. The privilege they possess is to sell alcohol for medicinal purposes. It is, therefore a question of fact in each case, whether a tonic wine is sold as a beverage or as a medicine, and the onus is on the pharmacist to prove that each sale was for *bona-fide* medicinal use.

No standard exists as to what constitutes a medicated "tonic wine." This fact places a serious responsibility upon pharmacists as a body. They have a reputation to maintain, and have no desire to do anything which will bring them within the scope of the law.

We have been asked by several pharmacists to refer to this matter, as we have reason to believe that action is contemplated by the authorities to test the validity of the section in the Licensing Act under which these wines are sold by others than licensed victuallers.

Births, Marriages & Deaths.

BIRTH.

BLAKE.—On the 17th August, at St. Andrew's private hospital, Middle Brighton, to Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Blake, Webb-street, Middle Brighton—a daughter.

DEATHS.

MONTGOMERY.—On the 5th September, 1917, Vincent Ford (accidentally killed), dearly beloved youngest son of John Henry Montgomery, 55 Manningtree-road, Hawthorn, aged 23 years.

KILLED IN ACTION.

BARNARD.—Somewhere in France, August, 1917, Lieutenant Norman Francis Watts Barnard, 1st Pioneer Batt., A.I.F., loved and only son of Francis G. A. and Mary R. Barnard, High-street, Kew, aged 23. (By cable, from his sister, Nurse Barnard, Rouen, France.)

The Month.

Brisbane College of Pharmacy.

It is somewhat disquieting to learn that the Brisbane College of Pharmacy is in financial straits. War conditions have so depleted the ranks of students that the Council is faced with such a shortage of fees as to necessitate the question being discussed of temporarily closing the institution. It is to be hoped that this calamity may be averted. Such excellent work has been done at the College that it would be a thousand pities if the institution had to be closed for lack of funds. Surely the Government must realise the value of the training given to the community. It cannot expect pharmacists to supply funds to carry it on, any more than it expects individual doctors to subsidise the medical school from their private purse.

Queensland is a country of vast distances, and the resourcefulness of the pharmacist in a far-off town or village has often saved a valuable life. The college training has always been directed towards this end. It is sound and practical, and if the State finds it essential to curtail expenditure, there surely must be other avenues of retrenchment affecting utilities of far less public value than the College of Pharmacy. Queensland has progressed educationally in recent years, and it will be freely regretted if for the lack of a little Government assistance such a useful technical institution as the College of Pharmacy has to close its doors.

Victorian Chemists' Wages Board.

Resolutions have been passed by the Victorian Parliament for the appointment of special Wages Boards for persons employed (1) in shops, and (2) in Friendly Societies' dispensaries and hospitals, compounding, dispensing, or selling drugs, medicines, or medicinal preparations. It cannot be said that pharmacists as a body were exceptionally keen to have a Wages Board. For over eight years their opposition staved off such a board, often at the eleventh hour. Many, however, realised that sooner or later a board had to come. Failing that, the possibility of the whole matter being taken to the Arbitration Court had to be faced. Conciliatory conferences between the employers and assistants were, therefore, arranged. The outcome of these was the presentation of a united agreement to the Government regarding the terms on which the master pharmacists would withdraw their opposition to a Board. The Factories Department accepted the wording of the resolution drawn up by the Conference, and later on, when the question of representation on the proposed Board, as between the registered pharmacists and the committees of the dispensaries, could not be settled by agreement, the Government consented to the request of pharmacists that two separate Boards should be appointed. All along the relations between the master pharmacists and their assistants had been of an amiable nature, and augurs well for the future. Unreasonable demands on either side are not likely, and the determination of the Board, when made, will at least have the effect of putting all employers of labour on the same basis. It will also have an important indirect effect, inasmuch as every shopkeeper selling drugs, medicines, or medicinal preparations must observe the same conditions imposed on pharmacists as regards the rates of wages which must be paid to employees selling this class of goods. Pharmacists have gained much by the policy adopted by their leaders. No principle has been sacrificed, as the Chemists Board will consist of registered pharmacists only. Properly handled the Board may become an instrument of considerable value to the craft as a body.

Nurses' Registration Bill.

A Bill to regulate the qualifications of trained nurses and to provide for their training and registration and for other purposes has been introduced into the Victorian Legislative Assembly by the Chief Secretary (Mr. McLeod) and the Attorney-General (Mr. Lawson). Clause 3 provides that nothing in the Bill shall be considered as conferring any authority to practise medicine or to undertake the treatment or cure of disease. Representations have been made to Mr. McLeod by the Pharmaceutical Society to the effect that this Clause should be extended to prevent nurses from practising as pharmacists, and from dispensing medicines. Many fatalities have occurred in consequence of nurses, untrained in the art of dispensing, compounding medicines for patients under their care. In New South Wales, nurses are forbidden by law from acting as dispensers, and pharmacists are of opinion that in the interests of the public the same course should be adopted in connection with this Bill. Other clauses in the measure follow the lines of similar legislation dealing with

pharmacists, dentists, etc., except that the Nurses Board is to be a departmental board of five, and not an elective board. An annual fee of 2s. 6d. is to be paid by every nurse on the Nurses' Register. Power is given to the Board to remove from the register the name of any nurse who is guilty of misconduct, or who disobeys the regulations. There is a right of appeal to a police magistrate. It is not considered likely that the Bill will be passed during this session of Parliament.

A Tale of Woe—and a Moral!

"Less than the dust beneath my feet," were the words used by a pharmacist the other day in describing his social and economic place in the community. His view-point was bounded by the horizon of disappointed hopes. Sympathy was lost on him. The vista of the future, which he saw when he embarked on his pharmaceutical career, has become a mirage, which ever seemed to recede more and more into the distance. The picture is not an overdrawn one. It is typical of pharmacists in every State. Education, training, and experience have not led to success, misfortune has persistently dogged the young pharmacist's footsteps, and he grows up disgruntled with his profession, seeing no good in anything. He tells you that he has no social status in the community, that he is classed hotch-potch in the Factories Act with the pork-butcher, the restaurant-keeper, and the oyster saloon. He takes out of his pocket a cutting from an American paper advertising meetings for the formation of Red Cross Societies, and reads that "to secure the highest class personnel doctors and nurses are required." Then he reads on, *inter alia*, emphasising his previous delusions about being a professional man—"Secondly, to secure *non-professional* personnel, ambulance drivers, chauffeurs, clerks, cooks, porters, mechanics, and *pharmacists*." "There," he says, "that is what the public think of the dignity of pharmacists—that is all our boasted system of education gives us. That is what pharmacy has come to." It was rather a tough proposition endeavouring to instil into the mind of that pharmacist that what was wrong was his own outlook in life. Gradually he saw that, after all, things were not as bad as they might be, that other business-men were experiencing worse conditions, that even his position in the Income Tax list was better than a number of other traders; that the prospects of better State recognition were more promising than for a long time past; that pharmacists now enjoyed more relaxation; that the professional side of their work was recognised to a greater degree than in the old days; that pharmacists to-day were a happier and more social body of men than ever before; that things might be worse, and that he had drifted a bit into a groove and thought that it was time he took a holiday, and when he returned he intended to put in a new shop front and take a more active part in the affairs of the town in which he lived. Three weeks later he wrote that things had improved — he had resumed his friendly relations with the local doctor, and altogether he felt proud to be a pharmacist. He had done his "grouch"—passed it on to the secretary of his Society, and now felt fit to carry on his work until his next annual visit to the city.

Medico-Political.

At a meeting of the New South Wales Branch held on August 31, 1917, at the B.M.A. Building, 30-34 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, the following resolutions were carried:—

"That Article 34 of the Articles of Association, which reads as follows, namely:—

1. "That no member shall receive commission from or share profits with any chemist, or, except with the sanction of the Council, have any pecuniary interest in any shop for the sale of drugs."

2. "That no member shall use any secret formula in prescribing or make it a condition that any medicine or appliance prescribed by him shall be dispensed or supplied at any particular place, but nothing herein contained shall be deemed to prohibit the use of special formulæ in hospital or contract practice prescribing."

3. "That no member shall accept from or pay commission to any insurance agent."

Pharmacist Investigates Disease in Horses.

Mr. James Barnes, pharmacist and veterinary surgeon, of Minyip, Victoria, at the request of the Warracknabeal Agricultural Society, recently completed an exhaustive investigation in connection with an alarming mortality amongst horses in the Wimmera. Some years ago, during a severe epidemic, when working in conjunction with his son, now Captain J. Barnes, of the Army Veterinary Corps, the disease was

diagnosed as spinal and cerebro-spinal meningitis. The cause is said to be due to the contamination of hay due to the mice plague. Early treatment is recommended. Potassium iodide if given in two dram doses three times a day, on appearance of the first symptoms, may have a good effect. The principal aim must be to destroy the causative germs, and this is best accomplished by steaming all infected fodder. Mr. Barnes will be pleased to forward a copy of the report to any pharmacist interested. Mr. Barnes was the first candidate examined by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria. He passed in Practical Pharmacy at the September Examination held in 1877.

Pharmacy Not Sufficiently Lucrative.

Pharmacy is a business of small transactions, yet it is a business of service, requiring accuracy and special knowledge. Few realise the responsibility of the pharmacist, and the valuable service he renders to the community. Unfortunately the public does not recognise the right to an adequate remuneration of the pharmacist's services as it should. Instead of being a business of small profits, it should be sufficiently attractive financially to induce the best brains in the community to be directed in its service. Every pharmacist in the Commonwealth has an individual duty to perform to impress this upon those members of the public he comes into contact with. Only by this means will our legislators be found to realise the true position. As members of an old and honorable calling the trained pharmacist has a right to demand from the State that modicum of professional reward which his skill and training undoubtedly entitle him to.

Pharmaceutical Education in New South Wales.

Pharmacists will read with interest an abstract from the *Medical Journal of Australia* on "The Teaching of Pharmacology," published on page 391 of this issue. The reference to the inadequate standard of preliminary education demanded of pharmaceutical students is not unmerited. For some time past it has been realised that the Entrance Examination to pharmacy has not kept pace with the other professions. The Queensland Pharmacy Board has led the way by demanding the Junior Public standard in future. Other States are certain to follow this lead. At present the New South Wales Preliminary Examination is below the average of the other States. It would not be asking too much of prospective students about to enter pharmacy to require them to attain the same standard of preliminary knowledge as would entitle them to enter the University. So long as the pharmaceutical preliminary remains at its present level it will always be a hindrance when the relationship of pharmacists with other professions are being considered. If New South Wales pharmacists, by raising the standard, could participate directly in a recognised University course in Pharmacology, the way would be paved to a degree in pharmacy. The present opening appears to have many advantages, and these, no doubt, are being carefully weighed by the pharmaceutical leaders in New South Wales.

Diuretin.

The difficulty in obtaining diuretin on the market has led to its production by dispensing chemists. There is no difficulty in preparing it. The only apparatus required is a water bath, which may be of an extemporaneous nature, and a burette, together with a N/- solution of sulphuric acid for adjusting the strength of the solution of sodium hydroxide.

Equal molecular weights of theobromine, sodium hydroxide, and sodium salicylate are required, and proceed as follows:—

Theobromine	180
Sodium Hydroxide	40
Sodium Salicylate	160

Make a 1 in 5 solution of sodium hydroxide, estimate the exact quantity of sodium hydroxide in it, place the theobromine in a dish heated on a water bath, add the correct volume of sodium hydroxide solution corresponding to 40 parts, and the sodium salicylate, together with sufficient water to dissolve the mixture while hot; evaporate on the water bath, breaking up the pellicle as it forms on the surface, until reduced to dryness; powder the product and again submit it to desiccation on the water bath until quite dry.

Comment.

PRESS CUTTINGS.

A Word.

There seems to be among manufacturers a generad hunt for a word to take the place of "patent medicine." The word patent in this connection has long been a misnomer, but like a fly in dog days, it has wonderful sticking powers.—*Spatula*, July, 1917.

Venereal Diseases Act.

The Westralian Venereal Diseases Act is proving a sorry farce; and the red plague is probably worse in the State than ever it was. The law aims chiefly at (1) suppressing quacks, (2) treating cases in hospitals. All that is the matter is that there are (1) no effective means for hunting the quacks, and (2) no hospitals to treat the cases after the doctors report them.—*Bulletin*, 16/8/17.

Manna Gum.

Von Mueller specified the manna-gum (*E. viminalis*) as the sole eucalypt producing melitose manna; but he lacked the usual thoroughness of the German, or, perhaps, did not live long enough to discover that other species yield the sweet substance, e.g., peppermint (*E. amygdalina*), red-gum (*E. rostrata*), white ironbark (*E. lencoxylon*), South Aus. white-gum (*E. paniculata*), and apple-box (*E. stuartiana*). I have watched the liquid falling like rain from an apple-box tree and covering the ground with a coating that soon sets into a hard white mass. Psyllids are the cause of leaf manna or "lerp," and coccids surround themselves with manna; but the manna of the British Pharmacopœia is gathered from the ash, and is quite distinct from the manna of the Australian bush. Ash manna comes from the south of Europe.—*Bulletin*, 16/8/17.

Selling Displayed Goods.

We lately saw it stated in an English newspaper that "three well-known barristers" had given their opinion that a trader can be compelled by law to sell an article displayed in his shop window at the price at which it is ticketed. But it is a question whether a tradesman can be compelled to sell his goods at all, at the marked or any other price. There may be some bona fide reason in a specific instance why he cannot sell a certain article. Some years ago an unscrupulous retailer exhibited attractive lines deliberately marked at ridiculously low prices to tempt people into his shop, when they were induced to accept inferior goods. A competitor tried to stop this objectionable practice by tendering cash and demanding delivery of the article, but he did not succeed. On the other hand, there was a case where a retailer was ordered to sell an article at the price marked. We believe no authoritative decision has ever been given on the point by the Superior Courts. — *Australian Storekeepers' Journal*, August, 1917.

A New Antiseptic.

A new powerful antiseptic compound has been discovered by three investigators of the Dermatological Research Laboratories of Philadelphia's polyclinic hospital. The compound is called mercurophen. Use of the invention has been offered to the army and navy and is free to the world.

Mercurophen is a compound of mercury with a complex phenol group. The discovery is the result of several years' labour. The new antiseptic is less poisonous than bi-chloride of mercury, and is declared to be from 30 to 50 times stronger in its germ-killing properties.

Some of these mercurophen tablets have been sent to France, and are being tested in American hospitals there.

The drug is particularly adapted to use in first aid dressing by using the gauze compresses which have been soaked in a solution previously. These may be carried by each soldier in an antiseptic envelope. When wounded, he can place the gauze pad over the wound and pour water on it. The antiseptic is not irritating to the skin. —*World's News*, 18/8/17.

Credit or Cash.

Discourage credit business wherever you can do it without unduly discouraging the customers. Profits tied up in book accounts may show up on paper in your annual statement, but they will shrink appreciably when you try to turn them into ready money. One reason why druggists have so much uncollectable money on their books is that they are often poor collectors. The best way to handle the credit business is to make the credit short; that is, to collect bills often. Get the credit as near to cash as you can. Thirty days is becoming the limit in many stores. Druggists and other merchants are finding that a bill is easier to collect while it is fresh in the customer's mind, and then the bill never grows any smaller by being allowed to stand. The sooner it is collected, the smaller it will be, and as the saying goes, "A short horse is soonest curried." The way to get the money is to go after it, go early and often, and if it is a slow pay customer, keep going, getting at least a promise each time of money at some future date, and always being right there on that day.—*Retail Druggist.*

Labelling Poisons.

The importance of strict compliance with the Poison laws cannot be over-emphasised. Most poison laws require that the seller affix to the package or receptacle containing the poison a label bearing the word "Poison" and the name and business address of the seller. Furthermore, the pharmacist must satisfy himself that such poison is to be legitimately used.

It should be noted that the manufacturers' label, as on one-eight ounce bottles of strychnine sulphate or packages of bi-chloride of Mercury tablets, is alone not sufficient. In addition the laws of some States, as of Iowa, require an additional label upon the wrapper covering the bottle, box, or other container of the poison.

The recording of poison sales is another matter which is easy to overlook. Pharmacists should remember that this is a professional service which is required by the State for the protection of its citizens.

Before a poison sale is made the name and address of the person to whom and the kind of poison delivered must be recorded in a book kept for the purpose.—*Canadian Druggist*.

The Optician and the Doctor.

The fact is pretty generally recognised nowadays that optometrists and oculists have arrived at a fork in the road, and the question is whether it is better for each to take their own road, giving no aid and asking none, or whether it would not be better to have a harmonious relation existing between the two.

A thriving or busy optician is the best single source of new patients an oculist can have, inasmuch as he sees many different patients, all eye cases, and a certain percentage of them must need treatment or require a surgeon. This should not be disregarded by the surgeon, and it would seem that the surgeon ought to be willing to treat the optometrist with sufficient consideration to earn these patients.—*The Australian Opticians' Gazette*, August, 1917.

Skyrocket Drug Prices.

The fact that the druggist himself, and not the customer alone, is hard hit by soaring prices should be impressed upon the public at every opportunity. There are some who still seem to think the retailer is "putting one over on them" every time they are asked to pay a higher price for a prescription, or a medicine, or something else in the drug store.

For the benefit of such as these a list like the following, compiled by a committee of the Boston Association of Retail Druggists, should be preserved. It will prove instructive to them:—

	Increase per cent.		Increase per cent.
Acetanilid	133	Castor oil	100
Acetphenetidin	1669	Phenolphtalein	1300
Acid benzoic	3155	Guaiacol Carbonate	1919
Citric acid	33	Ichthyol	384
Salicylic acid	357	Gum Camphor	111
Tartaric acid	353	Aspirin	100
Powdered alum	243	Bismuth subnitrate	79
Antipyrine	472	Caffeine citrate	93
Belladonna leaves	650	Cocaine alkaloid	100
Bromide of sodium	150	Digitalin powder	3566
Calomel	203	Dovers powder	140
Carbolic acid	446	Ergot	50
Cream tartar	50	Iodine	91
Sulphate of atropine	650	Iodoform crystals	61
Glycerine	195	Methyl salicylate	220
Naphthalene	233	Bromide of potassium	538
Oxalic acid	934	Phenacetine	627
Iodide of potassium	25	Salicin	233
Pot. Permang.	2694	Quinine sulphate	290
Sulphate of quinine	260	Castile soap	42
Resorcin	3800	Olive oil	25
Salol	333	Cod liver oil	316
Saccharin	1483	Oil santal	233
Benzoate of soda	1844	Lavender oil	25
Salicylate of soda	187	Cartons	100
Sugar of milk	166	Twine	25
Thymol	391	Toilet paper	100
Thymol iodide	164	Glassware	20
Sulphate of codeine	83	Wrapping paper	125
Sulphate of morphine	96	Writing paper	33
Witch hazel	19	Corks	25

—*Pacific Drug Review*, August, 1917.

New South Wales.

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

The regular monthly meeting of this Board was held at Sydney on September 11th. There were present—Mr. F. P. J. Gray (president), in the chair; and Messrs. Loney, Duncan, and Dixson. Apologies were received from absent members.

Preliminary Examination. — A letter was received from the Preliminary Examiner, selecting Scott's Lady of the Lake, Canto 4, as the English author and Caesar de Bello Gallico, Book V., as the Latin Author for the year 1918.

Carbolic Poisons.—A letter was received from the secretary of the British Medical Association, with regard to the proposed Poisons schedule, Part 2, and expressing the approval of the Medical Politics Committee of the proposal to include carbolic liquid preparations containing more than 3 per cent. of phenol or its homologues. Mr. Gray said that the proposed Amended Poisons Act was now in the hands of the Parliamentary draftsman.

An Unqualified Dispenser.—Mr. Chas. A. Lee, M.L.A., forwarded two letters from Mr. E. J. Bennett, of Urbenville. Mr. Bennett states that four years ago he was dispenser to Dr. H. Bebb, medical officer for the Strand Infirmary for over 7 years, and he wished to know if he could obtain a permit to dispense in the district in which he at present resided, which had no chemist. Mr. Gray said that unfortunately they had no power to grant any such permit according to law. If Mr. Bennett dispensed in the district in which he now lived, it should be according to the direction and under the supervision of a medical man. Mr. Dixson said that this was one of the unfortunate cases which came up from time to time. The applicant could not get a qualification as a dispenser except he passed through the regular curriculum as prescribed by law. It was resolved to reply, pointing out the legal difficulty, and stating that any dispensing done by the applicant should be under medical supervision.

The Country Storekeepers' Association wrote on behalf of one of their members, asking if he could sell phenol and sheep dip, and what proprietary medicines could be sold by storekeepers without infringing the law by storekeepers not holding licenses to sell poisons. The Registrar pointed out that sheep dip if properly labelled could be sold without licence. It was impossible for the Board to make out any list of articles that could be sold by storekeepers, as it had no certain knowledge of the composition of the articles in question. Letter was sent accordingly.

Agricultural Poisons.—Messrs. Anderson and Son, seedmen, etc., Sydney, wrote asking for particulars regarding the sale of agricultural poisons such as arsenite of lead, nicotine, and similar poisons. It was resolved to reply that

the Board were making full provision for the sale of agricultural poisons in the Amended Poisons Bill now being prepared. In the meanwhile, all poisons must be labelled as such, with the statement that they were intended for the destruction of vermin.

Prosecutions Under the Poisons Act.—The Inspector reported that M. B. Proctor, of Hunter-street, Sydney, was fined on September 7th, at the Water Police Court, Sydney, the sum of £3, with 6s. costs, for selling a poisonous cyanide compound for the cleansing or restoration of silvered goods; and H. R. Browne, assistant to a chemist, was fined £1, and costs, for selling poisons, he not holding a licence.

A Prosecution Withdrawn.—A letter was received from Messrs. Nall and Co., Berrina, regarding the sale of poisons, pointing out that their manager was now the holder of a licence. It was resolved to withdraw the case on payment of expenses.

An Appeal.—The Registrar reported that the firm of M. L. Shannon, of Cooma, had appealed against the magistrate's decision convicting him of the offence of selling a bottle of poison, viz., carbolic acid, of a greater strength than 3 per cent. The case would be heard at the next Quarter Sessions at Cooma.

New Poisons Bill. — The Registrar reported that a letter had been received from the Minister for Public Health, with some criticisms from Dr. Paton and Dr. Chapple, of the Health Department, on the draft of the Amended Poisons Bill. He had answered the letter, after consultation with some of the members of the Board. Action approved.

Careless Sale of Poisons.—The Registrar exhibited photographs of bottles of poisons as sold by country storekeepers, showing that poisons were sold in beer bottles without the original label being removed, also in medicine bottles with the medicine labels still left on the bottles. One brown paper parcel contained arsenic, with no label as such on it. Blocks had been made of the collection for the press, and it was resolved that Mr. F. P. J. Gray and the Registrar should write an appropriate article pointing out the danger of the practice, and of legal steps being taken to suppress the danger to the public. The exhibit quite justified the Pharmacy Board in their recent prosecutions of storekeepers and others for the illegal sale of poisons.

Treasurer's Statement.—This showed a credit balance of £93 4s. 5d. Accounts amounting to £42 5s. 9d. were passed for payment.

Registration Under the Pharmacy Act. — Ronald E. W. J. Henderson, of Redfern, a pharmaceutical chemist of South Australia; Duncan R. Chisolm, of Woollongong, a pharmaceutical chemist of New Zealand; Gilbert A. R. Macdonald, of Rylstone, Final Examination, N.S.W.; M. Dryen, of Darlinghurst, Final Examination, N.S.W.; and W. D. Morris, of Woollahra, a chemist and druggist of Great Britain, applied for registration under the Pharmacy Act, and registration was granted.

Pharmacists' Poisons Licenses and registration under the Poisons Act were granted to the same applicants.

Annual Poisons' Licenses were granted to 10 applicants.

Informal Application.—Mr. O. A. Vexey wrote and enclosed a fee for an annual license, but he forgot to state his postal address. The application came through the Board of Health Office.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The regular monthly meeting of Council was held on September 4th, at the office of the Pharmacy Board, Sydney. There was present—Mr. J. Dixson (president), in the chair; and Messrs. J. K. Wilson, T. Hislop Dick, J. Duncan, T. S. Loney, W. Short, and Ll. P. Williams. Apologies were received from absent members.

Alteration of Award.—The Secretary reported that Messrs. Pattinson and Co. had applied for and had obtained an alteration of the Wages Board award. They applied that the word "male" be inserted in section 6, sub-section J., after the word "No," so as to make the clause read "No male employee of the age of 21 years shall be paid less than the sum of £2 12s. 6d. per week." It was considered that if the same rates of wages were demanded by women as men the employment of women in pharmacies would be diminished.

Treasurer's Statement showed a credit balance of £908 5s. 2d. Accounts amounting to £57 18s. 2d. were passed for payment.

New Members.—Herbert H. Kissick, of Bondi; Fred. W. Wallace, of Katoomba; Arthur W. Holden, of Kensington, applied for admission, and a ballot being taken, they were declared duly elected. Mr. H. H. Kissick applied for the diploma of the Society, which was granted, on the usual conditions.

Early Closing. — A letter was read from the Master Pharmacists' Association, intimating that Messrs. Brokenshire, Dick and Sadler would be their representatives in the proposed Conference regarding early closing. A letter was read from the acting secretary of the Shop Assistants' Association, saying that they would not send a delegate to confer on the matter of early closing for pharmacists, as they were firm in their advocacy of six o'clock closing.

Military Service in India.—A number of pharmacists wrote, asking for particulars regarding military service for pharmacists in India. They were referred to the military authorities.

Apprentices for Brisbane. — A Brisbane pharmacist wrote, asking if there were any Sydney students who would be willing to be apprenticed in Brisbane as apprentices were not readily ob-

tainable in that city. The Secretary pointed out that the Preliminary Examination of Queensland required its students to pass a preliminary examination in other subjects than those included in the N.S.W. examination, and any young man going there would have to be prepared to pass in that subject or else pass the whole of the Queensland Preliminary Examination. This might be a stumbling-block in their way.

Suburban Master Pharmacists' Association. — Mr. Simons, of Rockhampton, wrote, asking for copies of the rules and bye-laws of such associations for the purpose of forming similar associations. Mr. T. Hislop Dick promised to furnish copies.

Law and Pharmacy.—A pharmacist wrote, asking to be furnished with particulars as to how the Pure Food Act affected a pharmacist's business. He also wished to know the points of difference between the laws relating to pharmacy in Queensland and New South Wales. It was resolved to send to applicant copies of the various Acts to which he referred.

Pharmacists Available.—The P.M.O., Victoria Barracks, wrote, asking how many qualified pharmacists were available for military service. It was resolved to reply that the number could not be stated, but it was believed that as many as were required might be obtained voluntarily.

Who Owns the Prescription?—A letter was rereceived from Mr. W. Morse Evans, of Kempsey, asking for a time and wages book, and also asking who owned a prescription. The reply sent was "the prescription is the property of the person who paid for it. It is not the property of the doctor, nor of the pharmacist dispensing it."

Illawarra Suburbs Master Pharmacists.—Mr. J. J. Geary wrote, stating that he had been appointed secretary to this association.

Lighting in Pharmacies.—A deputation of pharmacists waited on the Sydney Town Clerk, asking that they might be allowed to use lights in their dispensaries. A letter was received from the Town Clerk, intimating that pharmacists would be allowed to use one incandescent light for dispensing work, but every pharmacist would have to apply separately and receive a separate permit; no general permit could be given.

The New South Wales Association of Master Pharmacists.

Doctors Dispensing.

Efforts are being made to collect information relative to this matter, with a view to preparing a strong case against the practice. Information which will be of help to the Association will be welcomed by the Committee from pharmacists. Already several interesting letters have been received.

A Country Chemist writes :—

"I would much rather be relieved of the responsibility of prescribing for almost every ailment known to science, and follow the road of decent etiquette. But what am I to do? I have not the slightest doubt that dispensing by doctors is a dangerous procedure. In some country towns, in my humble opinion, it is simply blue murder. It is possible that this community may be an exception, but I contend that to dispense for a careless or incompetent medical man is, to a reputable pharmacist, conducive to personal degeneracy. The position, you will thus observe, is paradoxical. However, I have no hesitation in replying to the main object of your circular, by stating as a result of a very lengthy experience in every city in the Commonwealth that the habit of dispensing by medical men should be put down. It is fraught with danger, encourages fraud and dishonesty, increases the death rate, makes crime a jest, and perverts British justice."

Another Pharmacist writes :—

"I am delighted to find that your Association has decided to take this matter up. I have no particular evidence to offer, except to call your attention to two recent cases of death from poisoning through errors in doctors' dispensing. Perhaps my personal experience with local doctors may be of interest. On coming to this town three years ago, I was under the erroneous impression that doctors only needed to be approached in the right way by chemists, and they would easily be prevailed on to give up the practice of doing their own dispensing. Here all the five doctors do their own. I called on them all, and discussed the matter, but with no result. Two of them would be only too pleased to give it up, provided the others would. One other was quite candid about it: he wanted to know what he was going to get in return for giving up his dispensing. Another said he had to keep a bookkeeper, so the bookkeeper might just as well do his dispensing; and he does it too. My opinion now is that there is only one way to stop them, and that is by Act of Parliament."

Lighting Restrictions.

Owing to the present strike restrictions upon the use of light by business people have been very severe. The Committee of the Association went as a deputation to the Gas Board and Town Clerk emphasising the need of, and making application for the use of some light for dispensing purposes. As a result of these representations, the use of one incandescent gas burner has been allowed, and permission to use the electric light may be had upon individual application to the Town Clerk, Town Hall, Sydney.

New Members.

During the month the membership has increased by five new members.

WHEN THE MOTHER'S MILK IS NOT AVAILABLE

LACTOGEN

IS THE MOST SUITABLE SUBSTITUTE.

LACTOGEN is a complete food made from pure full cream milk, modified by the addition of cream and lactose, so as to approximate human milk as closely as possible in nutrition, digestibility and wholesomeness. It contains no starch products, cane sugar, preservatives, or any foreign matter, and is the most suitable substitute for maternal milk when such is lacking or deficient.

The following analysis shows that Lactogen is practically identical composition with human milk, and contains not only the requisite amount of Lactose, but also the full complement of Milk Fat:—

ANALYSIS.	Lactogen diluted with 6½ parts of water by weight.	Average composition of human milk.
Fat	3.13	3.1
Lactose	6.38	6.6
Proteids	2.80	2.0
Ash	0.62	0.2
Water	87.07	88.1

LET US SEND YOU SAMPLES WITH DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE.

THE BACCHUS MARSH CONCENTRATED MILK COMPANY LIMITED

MELBOURNE—591-9 Little Collins Street. SYDNEY—1 Bond Street. BRISBANE—98 Eagle Street.
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Druggists Report that Calox is a "Live" Line

Backed as it is by extensive advertising, together with the support of free samples to the public, Calox has made an auspicious start.

Calox stands on genuine merit, and "repeat" sales are an assured thing.

The individual talking points have created a demand for Calox and substitution is impossible. Druggists will secure the trade of discriminating customers when they stock this fine selling and thoroughly satisfactory dentifrice.

In order to help push Calox, we will gladly co-operate with you and supply a Calox Window free, together with attractive show cards, cartons, etc.

Calox shows a clear 33 1-3% profit, and as all wholesale houses are carrying stocks, orders for any quantity can be filled immediately.

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All High-Class Preparations.

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THE ABOVE LINES ARE ALL OBTAINABLE FROM

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TELEPHONE No. 2156 CENTRAL.

AND YIELD GOOD PROFITS.

SALVARSAN AND NEOSALVARSAN

EFFECTIVE SUBSTITUTES.

GALYL

GALYL is tetraoxydiphosphaminodiarsenobenzene and has been discovered by Dr. Mouneyrat.
It is found in the form of a clean yellow powder, liable to change when exposed to the air.

GALYL is as effective as SALVARSAN or NEOSALVARSAN on Spirochætes and Trypanosomes and free from the neurotropic and congestive actions of these preparations.

For Intravenous Injections--

(1) DILUTE—GALYL is supplied in neutral glass ampoules containing the necessary dose of Sodium Carbonate. Sterile distilled water being only used for the dissolution.

(2) CONCENTRATED—A special outfit containing one dose GALYL, one ampoule sterilised solution, and one small filter is supplied.

DOSES: 0·20—0·25—0·30—0·35—0·40.

For *Intramuscular Injections* GALYL is supplied in oily emulsion.

DOSES: 0·20—0·30—0·40.

Ref., B.M.J., 14/3/14—12/9/14.
LANCET, 18/9/15.

HECTINE

HECTINE is Sodii Benzo-sulph-p-amino-phenyl arsonas.

HECTINE consists of colourless needles, very soluble in water, containing approximately 21 per cent of arsenic.

The preparation is put up in sterile ampoules for *Intramuscular Injections*—

AMPOULES A containing 10 cg. in 1 c.c.
AMPOULES B ,, 20 cg. in 1 c.c.
PILLS ,, 10 cg.

Ref., THE LANCET, 26/6/15—"Severe cases of intractable syphillis treated satisfactorily with Hectine."

HECTARGYRE

Mercurial salt of HECTINE a combined arsenico-mercurial treatment of Syphillis, especially recommended after a course of Galyl.

The preparation is put up in sterile ampoules for *Intramuscular Injections*—

AMPOULES A containing			
Hectine	-	**10 cg.**	**in. 1 c.c.**
Hg.	-	**1 cg.**	
AMPOULES B containing			
Hectine	-	**20 cg.**	**in. 1 c.c.**
Hg.	-	**1½ cg.**	
PILLS containing			
Hectine	-	**10 cg.**	
Protoiod of Hg.		**1 cg.**	
Opium Extract		**1 cg.**	

In Phials of 24 Pills.

Supplies may be obtained from:—

ELLIOTT BROTHERS, Sydney and Brisbane. **A. M. BICKFORD & SON, Adelaide.**
FELTON, GRIMWADE & CO., Melbourne. **FELTON, GRIMWADE & BICKFORD LTD., Fremantle.**

Complete Literature on application to the Sole Agents for the British Empire, Colonies and Dominions—

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'Phone: Holborn 1311. **Telegrams: "Ampsalvae."**

No. 4 Open Letter to the Druggist Trade from Geo. R. Nicholas & Co.

To mount to the popularity enjoyed today by "Nicholas Aspro," is an achievement unapproached in the annals of the trade in Australia.

Everywhere from West to East, the sales are increasing beyond all anticipations.

We are now represented by every leading wholesale house in the Commonwealth, who do better than merely report good business. They order bulk supplies from us in increasing quantities.

And with the Summer ahead of us, we expect that the business to be done will be phenomenal. Therefore we advise ordering in advance.

Our advertising campaign will be continued and increased. Large spaces will be taken in the papers, and window displays arranged for, wherever required.

Our sampling offer to the public resulted in

OVER 3,000 REPLIES BEING RECEIVED IN THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST.

Every enquirer was referred to the local chemist, as the place where he or she could obtain regular supplies. And the sample packets sent contained only four tablets, enough for one dose, and sufficient only to prove that "Nicholas Aspro," as sold by the local chemist, was the speedy and safe headache remedy which we claimed it to be in our advertisement.

3,000 REPLIES PROVE THAT THE DEMAND EXISTS FOR OUR LINE.

And remember, these 3,000 replies cost each enquirer 3d., so that it cannot be said that mere curiosity prompted the enquirers to write for the samples.

"Nicholas Aspro" will continue to be manufactured in strict accordance with the tests laid down by the Federal Commonwealth Analyst, and the price will remain the same although the cost is considerably higher than when we fixed it eighteen months ago.

Therefore we have every reason to hope for, and every confidence in expecting that co-operation by the trade will be extended to the Australian-made "Nicholas Aspro" this coming season.

Stocks can be Supplied by all the leading Wholesalers in each State.

GEO. R. NICHOLAS & CO.

325 FLINDERS LANE, MELBOURNE.

Victoria.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on Wednesday, September 12.

Present.—The President, Mr. Towl, in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Buckhurst, Gulliver, Fleay, and Jewkes. An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. Sayer.

Correspondence.—Letters outwards, Nos. 646 to 726, were laid on the table and minuted.

Mr. F. G. A. Barnard, Kew, wrote thanking the President and members of the Board for their expressions of sympathy in the loss sustained by him in the death of his only son on active service.

Mr. Benjamin Davis, Portland, wrote asking for particulars regarding the concessions made to apprentices enlisting in the A.I.F. Informed that the consent of his master to the suspension of the indentures must be obtained, and a notification of such consent forwarded to the Board. Upon his discharge from the A.I.F. an application could be made for remission of portion of the term of apprenticeship.

Mr. R. Gillespie, Loch, wrote asking for a list of articles which contained poison. The Registrar reported that a reply had been sent stating that the Board was unable to furnish such a list as the composition of proprietary articles was constantly changing.

Mr. Albert W. E. Gosbell, Geelong, applied for the recognition of the Preliminary Examination of New South Wales, four years' apprenticeship to a registered chemist in that State and the attendance of lectures in the compulsory subjects at the Sydney University. He also submitted documentary evidence showing that he had passed examinations in practical chemistry and materia medica. It was resolved that the application be granted, and that Mr. Gosbell be permitted to continue his pharmaceutical course in Victoria. He would be required to pass the intermediate examination in chemistry and botany, and afterwards the Final Qualifying Examination.

Mr. A. Fulton, Northcote, wrote asking whether he was required under the Health Act regulations, when selling hydrobromic acid to state the percentage of the acid on the label. He had looked over the regulations, and did not see this drug mentioned. To be informed that it was necessary, and that the drug mentioned came under the general heading of bromines.

The British Medical Association brought under notice a circular which had been issued by a firm of chemists asking doctors to supply particulars of the work they specialised in; their telephone number, postal address, and other information of use to the public in order that a medical register might be compiled. The Council did not favour the compilation of such a register. The Registrar stated that he had made inquiries in the matter, and had ascertained that it was not intended to publish any list, and that the information was being obtained to save the trouble of telephoning to individual doctors. The firm in question had no desire to act in any way unethically.

Mr. J. McKenzie King, Cohuna, wrote asking whether the Poisons Act prevented the sale of iodine to persons under the age of 18 years. To be informed that the only restrictions were that iodine could only be sold by qualified persons, and that it must be properly labelled in accordance with the requirements of the Poisons Act.

The Pharmacy Board of Tasmania wrote asking what was the practice of the Board in regard to students under the age of 21 years being allowed to sit for their Final Examination. A reply was sent stating that under the Medical Act the Board had no power to admit to the Final Examination any person under the age of 21 years.

Messrs. Welch, Perrin and Co. Pty. Ltd. wrote asking for information regarding the conditions under which arsenate of lead could be sold. Informed that this preparation could be sold by any person provided it was contained in a closed vessel distinctly labelled with the word "poison" and the name and address of the seller, and also a notice of the special purpose for which it was intended. Under the Poisons Regulations 1917 it must not be sold at the same counter as articles of food for human consumption.

The Executors of the late J. McBurney, Kilmore, applied for an extension of the permit to carry on the business for a further period of six months, from the 15th September, 1917. To be granted subject to the condition that the management of the business was in the hands of a registered pharmaceutical chemist.

Mr. David Benjamin, North Carlton, brought under notice a case in which he alleged a suburban dispensary had incorrectly dispensed medicine ordered for his wife by a lodge doctor. He submitted the two bottles of the medicine obtained by him, and also a copy of the prescription. He was desirous of taking action against the dispenser for making up the prescription wrongly. The Registrar stated that he had inquired into this case, and found that the complainant had no right of action against the dispenser, as there was no evidence to show who had made the medicine up. The two bottles of medicine had been forwarded to the Government Analyst for analysis, but his report had not yet come to hand.

A letter was forwarded to the Chief Secretary asking that the Crown Solicitor might be requested to advise the Board concerning a legal question relative to the carrying on of the business of a deceased pharmaceutical chemist.

Applications for Registration.—Henry Kaipoi Brooke, Whiteman Street, South Melbourne, applied for registration in Victoria as the holder of a certificate of the Pharmacy Board of New Zealand. The application was granted.

Enrolment of Managers.—Mr. E. T. P. Davies notified his appointment as manager of the business of Mr. A. S. Cohn, Camberwell. Mr. John A. Kay notified that he had relinquished the management of the pharmacy of Mr. H. H. Brown, Morwell.

Apprentices' Indentures Registered.—Ernest F. J. Kennedy, to J. W. C. Black, East Melbourne; Ellen J. M. Perrett, to J. A. Kruse, Hawthorn; Eileen McSwiney, to R. A. Jones, Rochester; Floris A. Beaumont, to J. B. Henry, Bendigo; Dorothy Burston, to P. M. Hendry, Brighton; Daniel K. Taylor, to H. B. Taylor, Richmond; Vera Paton, to F. Cathcart, Canterbury; Freda Smalley, to Misses M. and E. Whittle, Oakleigh.

Poisons License. — A certificate under the Poisons Act was granted to Thomas Boddy, Malmsbury.

Police Reports.—Five cases of poisoning were reported by the police. In one case the death of a young woman occurred owing to arsenic being swallowed in mistake for Gregory's Powder. Inquiries had been made, and it was found that the provisions of the Poisons Act had been complied with. In another case, a child, aged 13 months, was given some Blaud's Pills to play with. It swallowed one or two, and subsequently died. The remaining cases related to poisoning by ammonia, cyanide of potassium, and strychnine.

Erasure of Name from the Register. — The names of the following deceased pharmacists were erased from the Pharmaceutical Register: —Erskine E. Llewellyn, U.F.S. Dispensary, North Carlton (died 17/8/17), and Alexander M. Cattach, Edward-street, Northcote South (died 29/8/17).

The September Examinations.—The following reports were received from the Examiners.—

Preliminary Examination (37 candidates), held at Melbourne, Ballarat, Geelong, Ararat, Castlemaine, Camperdown, Daylesford, Bendigo, and Melbourne: — Passed in order of merit—I. C. Harlem, Kathleen Delahenty, J. A. Lannen, E. S. Nathan, Millicent Dunn, Lesbia Mary Reade, F. G. Damyon, N. W. Haslem, A. J. Jones, Verna E. Dunn, E. Clark, Alma E. Macaw, Edith E. Cheshire, Dora Frances Peart, Sibyl Taylor, Eileen Flight. Eligible to take the subjects indicated at a subsequent examination:—Euclid: H. H. Wilson; Algebra: J. M. Adam, Margery R. Betts, P. Kaufman; Arithmetic: C. Saleeba; Latin and Arithmetic: T. R. Harrison; Arithmetic and Geometry: Evelyn P. Proctor, A. P. T. Robins; Latin and Geometry: T. F. Newton, W. C. Hutchison, N. Jacobs, K. D. Bennetts; Arithmetic and Algebra: W. M. Mills; Latin and Algebra: A. G. Davis.

Final Qualifying Examination (Practical Pharmacy). — Six candidates. Passed—Dulcie E. Bishop, Eric H. Trathan, Gordon S. Flude, Harry W. Wiltshire.

The reports were received and adopted.

Apprenticeship to a Manager.—Indentures to the manager of a pharmacy, the proprietor of which was on active service, were forwarded for registration. The Board decided that under the Medical Act it could not accept them for registration. If the proprietor left a power of attorney, the Board was willing to register the indentures in his name, provided such power of attorney gave the person holding it the power to execute the indentures.

War Service Regulations. — Application was made by a returned soldier for the recognition of his apprenticeship to a New Zealand pharmacist. The declaration showed that although the apprenticeship commenced on 1st May, 1912, the New Zealand Preliminary Examination was not passed until 1st June, 1915. The Board was therefore unable to accept that period of apprenticeship served prior to that date. It was resolved to accept the indentures for registration as and from 1st June, 1915. The applicant desired for health reasons to complete his qualification in Victoria, and desired to claim the concession under the Medical Act, 1916 (Apprentices on War Service). He was willing to enter into fresh indentures and pass through the Victorian curriculum. It was resolved to defer consideration of this matter until the next meeting. In the meantime, the registrar was instructed to write to the Pharmacy Board of New Zealand, and ask whether the Board would accept the Victorian Intermediate and Final Examinations in lieu of the New Zealand examinations. If this were done, the applicant could register in New Zealand and subsequently in Victoria. It would obviate the applicant having to serve a further three years in Victoria, and the Board asked that favourable consideration might be given to the matter, as the applicant bore excellent credentials and was deserving of every encouragement in his desire to qualify.

Pharmaceutical Diploma and the University.— It was resolved that a letter should be sent to the School Board asking to be furnished with the reasons for the rejection of the Board's request that the pharmaceutical diploma course might be accepted as a qualification for matriculation at the University.

Better Training of Apprentices.—A letter was received from the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, asking the Board to take this matter into consideration. The President said he appreciated the desire of the Council to improve the conditions of apprenticeship, but he did not think the Board possessed the necessary power to prescribe a curriculum which masters must carry out in regard to their apprentices. The master was required to the best of his skill and knowledge to teach the apprentice and cause him to be taught the business or profession of a pharmaceutical chemist, and all things incidental thereto. This amply protected the apprentice, and gave him a right of civil action against the master if the latter failed to carry out this covenant in the indenture.

Prosecutions and Inquiries. — The following prosecutions were reported:—

Brighton, 31/8/17.—Joseph Neal, illegal sale of phenyle; fined £1, with 35s. costs.

Swan Hill, 16/8/17. — J. H. Barker, chemist, failure to record sale of strychnine; fined 10s.

Jeparit, 6/9/17.—G. W. Franklin, chemist, neglect to make required entry in Poisons Book; fined 20s.

A case against a hawker for selling phenyle at Armadale was set down for trial at Malvern on September 27.

Cases against a firm of grocers at St. Kilda and a storekeeper at Chelsea were considered, and the registrar was ordered to take proceedings.

Tins as Containers of Poison.—It was resolved to recommend the Governor-in-Council to approve of a regulation under the Poisons Act, permitting the use as containers of liquid disinfectants of round tins, with rounded pyramid-shaped top and screw cap, provided that the words "Not to be taken" were embossed, painted or branded thereon in red letters of not less than 12 points face measurement, bold sanserif capital type, and the word "Poison" embossed, painted, or branded in two places on the sides of such tin, in red letters of not less than 30 points face measurement, bold sanserif capital type.

Exemption from Preliminary Examination. — Violet M. E. Quin, Malvern, was exempted from the Preliminary Examination on the ground of having passed Junior Public at the Melbourne University in English (distinction), Geography (distinction), French (distinction), Geometry, History, and Arithmetic.

Medicated Wine.—Mr. Bailey drew attention to action which was contemplated by the Temperance Party regarding the sale of medicated wines. He thought pharmacists should be careful not to sell any wine which was not adequately medicated. The registrar was instructed to enquire if any standard existed for medicated wine (other than Quinine Wine), and to point out that pharmacists as a body would welcome the adoption of a definite standard.

General Business.—The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Bailey) submitted the monthly financial statement. Accounts were passed for payment, and the Board adjourned.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

The Council met on September 5.

Present—The Vice-President (Mr. Taylor), in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Champion, Francis, Imes, Owen, and Pickford.

Apologies for non-attendance from Messrs. Gabriel, Kernot and Lee.

Correspondence inwards and outwards was read and minuted.

Wages Board Proposals. — The secretary reported that on the previous day the Legislative Council had postponed consideration for a week of the two resolutions for the appointment of Wages Boards for chemists and dispensers in Friendly Societies' dispensaries and hospitals. The postponement was due to certain statements which had been made that the master pharmacists were opposed to a Wages Board.

Mr. Owen said that certain representations had been made by individual pharmacists, which were misleading, and which placed the Council in a peculiar position.

Mr. Champion said he had been approached to take steps to oppose the Board. He declined to do this, because the Council had decided after full consideration of the whole matter to support the resolutions now before Parliament.

Mr. Owen: That was the proper attitude to take up.

Mr. Bailey said that those who were opposing the Board might place pharmacists in the very position the Council was endeavouring to avoid. By knocking out the Chemists' Board they were giving the Minister for Labour an opportunity of tacking chemists on to the Dispensaries Board. Section 135 of the Factories Act provided for this.

The Secretary reported that he had received a telephonic communication from the Factories Department, asking the Council to again define its attitude towards the resolutions now before Parliament. He had been informed by the department that if those who were attempting to wreck the Chemists' Board succeeded, the department had ample power to bring chemists in under the Dispensaries Board. If that were done, pharmacists would not be represented on the Board until it expired in three years' time.

Mr. Imes said that he had been approached to demand a referendum of members on the question.

The Vice-President said he doubted if this could be done. The Council was acting on the decision of the annual meeting.

Mr. Pickford pointed out that he had good reason for saying that those who were opposing the Board were being made use of by the dispensaries for their own ends. This question had been very carefully considered for months past. The Council had arrived at a certain decision based on the fullest possible information at its disposal. It would be extremely undesirable to publish all the reasons which actuated the Council in arriving at this decision. Members must trust their representatives on the Council to act as they thought best for pharmacists as a body. The Council, in common with the other organisations, had decided to support the Government proposals. It could not go behind the annual meeting. No representations had been made by members of the Society in opposition to what had been done. Now, at the last moment, a few individuals were moving to upset what had been done. Did these gentlemen prefer a Wages Board, with representatives from both sides meeting together in a conciliatory manner, or did they prefer the Federal Arbitration Court, with its attendant cost and worry? He certainly thought that of the two evils they were wise to choose the lesser.

Mr. Francis said he was opposed to a Board, but he realised the seriousness of the position if pharmacists were to be tacked on to the Dispensaries' Board by departmental action.

Mr. Imes said pharmacists should not be included in the fourth schedule. He had made representations to the Department years ago, protesting against the inclusion of chemists.

Mr. Owen stated that he had always opposed the inclusion of chemists in the fourth schedule, but it was no use crying about that now. The Council was carrying out the mandate of the annual meeting in regard to the Board, and the subsequent proposals had been unanimously adopted at a conference between employers and

employees, at which representatives of the Society, the P.D.L., and the Metropolitan Chemists' Association were present.

Mr. Pickford moved, Mr. Bailey seconded, that a letter be addressed to the Secretary for Labour, re-affirming the Council's attitude, and stating that the resolutions drafted by the Government had the full support of the Council.

The motion was carried, Mr. Imes dissenting.

Mr. Imes moved that a referendum of the members be taken. Mr. Francis seconded the motion.

Mr. Pickford stated that he was not opposed to a referendum, but it was not possible to get a true vote unless members could be apprised of all the facts of the case. It was impossible to state in a circular all the reasons which had weighed with the Council in arriving at its decision. He was not afraid to meet the members in a general meeting and justify his attitude in the matter. If a referendum were taken, the question would have to be stated something like the following: Are you in favour of a Wages Board for chemists, or do you prefer the Federal Arbitration Court?

Mr. Imes said the arbitration business was a bogey.

Mr. Pickford said he had seen the papers showing that everything was in train to start proceedings if the present effort to get a Wages Board failed. Did they want all their private affairs dragged before the Arbitration Court? Were they prepared to put their hands deeply in their pockets to meet the expense?

Mr. Owen: Surely the Adelaide Arbitration Court proceedings were a sufficient example.

Mr. Imes: I do not think they would go to the Arbitration Court.

Mr. Pickford: My evidence is sufficient for me to think they will. Let us be conciliatory. We are on a friendly footing with our employees, and the Wages Board method is a fair and reasonable means of adjusting matters in dispute.

Mr. Champion: I do not wish to vote against a referendum, but I realise the impossibility of taking it before the House deals with the resolutions on Tuesday next. Under the conditions obtaining, we cannot get a true vote. We must follow the annual meeting.

Mr. Imes: I know my motion will not be carried, but I intend to press it.

Mr. Bailey: It is not possible for any member who has not been present at each of these Council meetings to be thoroughly seized with all the details surrounding this question. To issue a circular giving the whole of the Council's reasons for supporting the present proposals would mean practically letting the public know the members' private business. It would be most impolitic to do this. Members must trust the Council in the matter. I cannot vote for the motion, although as a general principle I would approve of a referendum being taken if all the facts could be placed before members.

Mr. Pickford moved that the question of taking a referendum be postponed for six months. He adopted this course, because he objected to being trapped into voting against the principle of the referendum.

Mr. Champion seconded the amendment. He did so because the time to have objected to the Council's proposals was at the annual meeting. Full publicity had been given on the notice paper of the intention to discuss the question. The policy of the Council had been approved of by a large majority. Now, at the last moment, an attempt was being made to belittle the Council, and place it in a false position with the Government and with the members of the Society.

Mr. Owen said he could not face members of Parliament or the officers of the department if the Council was forced to go back on its written word.

Mr. Champion said that the only provision in the Articles of Association for a poll was at a general meeting of members. Those who were now demanding a poll had the opportunity to secure it at the annual meeting. He did not think either the motion or the amendment was in order.

Mr. Francis said he did not want a Wages Board, but he quite saw the danger of getting tacked on to the Dispensaries Board.

The Vice-President said he had allowed a full discussion because he did not wish to prevent those opposing the board from expressing their views. He could not accept Mr. Imes' motion, because there was no power to take a referendum. Some years ago the Council endeavoured to secure this power, but it found that the Companies Act did not allow it, except in the form provided in the articles, namely, at a general meeting. He therefore declared the motion out of order.

Mr. Imes said he desired his motion to be recorded in the published report, and the Vice-President said he would see that this was done.

Enemy Trade Marks.—Mr. Pickford moved, Mr. Owen seconded, that letters be forwarded to the Prime Minister and Mr. W. H. Kelly, M.P., stating that the Council was in full accord with the motion now before the Federal House of Representatives, affirming the desirability of prohibiting the use of German-coined names as trade-marks, and pointing out that pharmacists as a body would heartily welcome such a prohibition. Carried.

Training of Apprentices.—The adjourned discussion on this subject was resumed by Mr. Pickford, who moved that a letter be sent to the Pharmacy Board stating that, in the opinion of the Council, it was desirable that some steps should be taken to provide a better pharmaceutical training for apprentices. He considered that something should be done in this direction, and his desire was that the Board should give careful consideration to the matter. Mr. Champion seconded the motion. Mr. Imes said he could not support it. He never took apprentices. He did not wish any further restrictions to be placed on pharmacists. The Chairman said that Mr. Pickford's motion was not committing the Council to anything. No harm could come out of the resolution. Mr. Imes said he still intended to oppose the motion, which the chairman declared carried. A division was called for, and the voting was: — In favour of the motion:

Messrs. Champion, Owen, and Pickford; against: Messrs. Francis and Imes.

Synopsis of Legislation. — Mr. Owen said that he thought pharmacists would greatly welcome a booklet, containing a brief synopsis of the laws affecting them—both Federal and State. He believed that if the Society issued such a booklet pharmacists would greatly appreciate it, and would be prepared to pay for it. If all the principal points were set out concisely, and the booklet was issued in a handy form, it would prove very useful to pharmacists and their assistants. He thought the secretary would be the best man to compile the booklet, as he had an intimate knowledge of the laws affecting pharmacists. Mr. Pickford endorsed the proposal. The Secretary said the task was not an easy one, but if the Council thought there was likely to be a demand for such a booklet he would see if he could find time to compile it.

Labelling Regulation.—Attention was drawn to the proposed regulation under the Health Act, requiring a declaration on the label of drugs and proprietary medicines of the net weight or volume of the contents, and it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Pickford, seconded by Mr. Francis, that the attention of Mr. Bailey be drawn to this proposal, and that he be asked, as the Council's representative on the Food Standards Committee, to endeavour to see that the interests of pharmacists were conserved in any regulation which was passed.

Nurses' Registration Bill.—The secretary was instructed to procure a copy of this Bill, and request the Chief Secretary to have a clause inserted, limiting the right of nurses to act as dispensers.

General Business.—Mr. J. E. Turner invited the members to attend an illustrated lecture by Mr. E. E. Pescott, on "Australian Plants," to be delivered to the members of the night class at the College on September 19, at 8.30 p.m.

The Hon. Treasurer and Secretary were authorised to jointly sign, on behalf of the Council, the necessary letter of authority to obtain delivery of the Commonwealth War Loan Bonds should the Council desire at any time to obtain possession of the bonds from the Commonwealth Bank, where they were lodged for safe custody.

The Secretary reported that members had responded well to the circular asking for payment of subscriptions. There were now only 45 members owing for the current year, and ten members owiug for more than one year. The Medical Class commenced on August 27, seventy-two students having entered. The special evening class would terminate at the end of the month.

The Hon. Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, accounts were passed for payment, and the Council adjourned.

Metropolitan Chemists' Association.

City Section.

The following is the annual report:—

During the year just closed our membership increased from 24 to 27.

The 6 o'clock closing for hotels threatened to be inconvenient, but our present meeting arrangements are perfectly satisfactory and comfortable.

We have to regret the death of one of our members, Mr. Bourdic, of Spencer Street.

We sold 9500 Spirol labels during the year, and agreed that the best hours for ordinary public holidays be the same as Saturday:—Close from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The question of assistants' half-holidays in weeks containing a public holiday was settled.

The regulation re posting medicines was discussed, and a deputation from the P.D.L. waited on the Deputy P.M.G., with the result that the regulation was shelved pro tem.

Free window shows were discussed and condemned. Some compensation was considered necessary, either in goods, discount or cash.

It was decided to adopt the name "Purple Crystals" for permanganate of potash.

Mr. Koch was appointed analyst to the City Section, on the same terms as he acts for P.D.L.

Balance-sheet.

To Balance Forward	£5	7	9
„ Members' Subscriptions	6	10	0
„ Sales Spirol Labels	4	2	6
„ Bank Interest	0	3	3
	£16	3	6
By Sub. to Cent. Committee	£3	5	0
„ Printing Spirol Labels	2	8	9
„ Postage, Notices, Stationery	2	15	3
„ Balance	7	14	6
	£16	3	6

Audited and found correct.—F. N. Pleasance, Hon. Auditor.

G. F. H. Attwood, Hon. Secretary, 4/9/17.

Central Committee.

The usual monthly meeting of the Metropolitan Chemists' Association was held at the College of Pharmacy on September 18.

Present—Messrs. Hughes, Jones, Keays, Bartleman, Madge, Landman, Newman, Yelland, Charles, Laurance, Champion, Attwood, Pleasance, Craven, and Garrick.

Wages Board.—It was resolved to nominate two representatives, one from the Association and the other to represent country interests, for the Chemists' Wages Board. In the event of the Association's inability to secure the nomination of a country representative, it was decided to nominate two from the Association.

Window Displays. — After discussion it was practically unanimously agreed to make a charge for window displays by manufacturers.

Letter of Condolence. — Before the meeting terminated, reference was made to the sad loss sustained by Mr. W. H. MacLennan, owing to the death of his wife, and it was decided to forward a letter of condolence to him.

Annual Meeting.—This was fixed for Tuesday, October 2nd, at the College of Pharmacy.

NORTHERN SECTION.

The annual meeting was held at the London Cafe on Tuesday, September 11th, at which there was a representative gathering. The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing twelve months:—

President.—Mr. A. Stevenson.
Vice-President.—Mr. J. Garrick.
Delegates.—Messrs. Bartleman and Yelland.
Auditor.—Mr. W. J. S. Cowper.
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.—Mr. C. H. Yelland.

Queensland.

Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.

Annual Meeting, August 15th, 1917.

There were present the president, Mr. R. C. Park, Messrs. J. P. Davies, J. A. Minnis, A. B. Chater, T. J. Rutter, L. Irwin (Laidley), H. E. Crease, W. A. Noble (Toowoomba), G. J. Mackay, M. J. Martin, W. J. Costin, T. J. F. Costin, A. Forbes, W. B. Rawlinson, H. I. C. Dent, J. Lunn, A. Learmonth.

The minutes of last annual meeting were taken as read, and were signed by the president.

RESOLUTION OF LOYALTY.

Before beginning proceedings the president proposed the following resolution:—

"We, the chemists of Queensland, members of the Pharmaceutical Society, assembled in annual meeting, desire to express our undiminished loyalty to the British Throne.

"We regret the continuation of the war, forced upon the British people by unscrupulous enemies, and we deplore the sad loss of so many young lives that it has entailed.

"We express our sympathy with the sufferers, and we offer our consolation to those who mourn for their dead."

Annual Report.—The President said the council's report had been printed and distributed among members. He proposed that the report be received.

PPESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The following were some of the subjects touched upon:—

Pharmaceutical Legislation. — In commenting on the report, he said that the council, acting in conjunction with the Pharmacy Board, had several interviews during the year with the Home Secretary, and he and other councillors had spoken to influential members of the Opposition and other members of the Legislative Assembly on the subject. The Home Secretary had promised an early introduction of a Pharmacy Bill into the House.

Food and Drug Regulations.—The Health Regulations (Food and Drug) had taken up much of the council's time, but he was happy to say that most of the outstanding differences between the council and the Department of Public Health were now in a fair way towards settlement. The department has always met the council in a conciliatory spirit. With regard to the "Sale and Use of Poisons," he thought that many members had overlooked the fact that there is no longer any Act dealing with the sale of poisons in Queensland. It had been rescinded in February last, and provision had been made in the amending Health Act, 1917, for the Commissioner of Public Health to make regulations covering the subject. A draft of the proposed regulations had been submitted to the council for their comment, and while many of them would be found very stringent in operation, there were compensating advantages. They had interviewed the Commissioner on them, and had left with him a copy of their comments, which they were told would receive every consideration.

Federal Journal.—He said that the proposed federal journal that had occupied so much of the last annual meeting had been postponed for a time, but that this was a temporary postponement only.

Visit to North Queensland.—He was pleased to say the visit of the secretary and himself to North Queensland had been a success, in bringing the chemists of the various towns together, and in explaining to them what the council had been doing in the interest of the craft.

Combination.—For some years he had endeavoured to advocate combination and co-ordination of chemists residing in the same town. He had found that suspicion often led to petty bickerings, and prevented mutual co-operation. The departmental stores and grocers were the chief opponents of the chemist, who used their lines as draw lines. By combined buying chemists would be in a position to meet this combination. He further advocated that lines which did not afford a reasonable working profit should not be handled. It would be necessary to engage the sympathy of the wholesale houses. It might be necessary at times to talk to them, but it would be decidedly to their mutual advantage to work with them. Conditions of trade were not improving; prices were uniformly on the upgrade.

The Tariff.—Recently the 1917 tariff had been published in the daily papers, where they had seen that both duty and excise on alcohol had been considerably raised, making the cost of practically all the fluid preparations handled by chemists higher to them to the extent of nearly ninepence per lb. on 90 per cent. alcohol independent of overhead charges. These should be passed on to the consumer forthwith.

Secretary's Remuneration. — He had been charged by chemists in the towns visited to bring before the annual meeting the inadequacy of the remuneration to the secretary for the work he was doing. This, he said, was for the council to rectify, but he was placing before the meeting what the northern chemists had told him to do. These men, he said, told him they were prepared to dip further into their pockets if necessary so that the secretary should be properly remunerated.

Thanks to Council, etc.—He thanked the council and the past president, Mr. Mackay, for the support they had afforded him during his year as president.

Discussion on Annual Report.—Mr. Forbes, in his remarks, said the first paragraph brought gloomy reminiscences. It was only a few years ago many of those present remembered the young men who had lost their lives in the war, as students in the College of Pharmacy, where they had acquitted themselves most worthily. He went on to speak of the anomalies which had crept into the different regulations governing the calling of the pharmacist, and which had been the duty of the council to look into. With regard to the question of the Federal Journal, he failed to see why the war should have interfered with its consummation.

Price Fixing. — For years he had advocated price fixing. This question was more acute now than ever. He suggested that a committee of the society should go into the matter, and a meeting should be called to confirm the prices agreed upon. He had found himself suddenly called upon to pay 100 per cent. and upwards increase on a line, and sometimes he was selling inadvertently at a loss were he called upon to renew the particular line. He thought the committee could finish their labours in a week, or a fortnight at most.

Watkins' Memorial.—He was pleased to see the memory of their former colleague perpetuated in such a worthy manner.

Discussion by Members.

Benevolent Fund.—Mr. Forbes complimented the president on the method he had adopted for raising the Benevolent Fund. Calling on members was more effectual than issuing circulars, which were usually overlooked.

Mr. W. B. Rawlinson said it gave him much pleasure to be present. He regretted to miss some of the old faces. A few had taken their departure to the Great Undiscovered Country from which no traveller returned.

The Late Mr. Peter McEwan.—He referred also to the death of the late Mr. Peter McEwan, whom he had known when a youth in Scotland, and to the benefits he had conferred upon pharmacy, and the loss his demise was to pharmacy.

Military Pharmacists.—Mr. Rawlinson said he was pleased to see the honour board in the hallway, with the names of so many of their young men inscribed thereon. He trusted to see many more names on it.

Enemy Trade Marks. — He noticed that the names "Aspirin" and "Lysol" were now common property. He would like to know what chance there was of this becoming permanent after all our sacrifice of life and treasure.

Price Fixing.—He could not see that much could be done while the war lasts to fix prices; they fluctuated so. He received a circular last week stating that one line of proprietary pills was 1s. 3d., this week they were 1s. 2d.

Northern Itinerary.—It was a source of satisfaction to him that the northern trip had at last eventuated. He considered it opportune that the president was a northern man, and that he was able to accompany the secretary. The president and secretary was a good combination to send north, and were evidently quite qualified for the work they set out to do, and he was pleased that the visit was appreciated so highly by the northern members.

Mr. W. J. Costin commented on what previous speakers had said, and thought the report was alright.

Mr. J. Lunn said it caused him unbounded pride and satisfaction to see so many names figuring on the Honour Board. Pharmacists had been found to fill every position that they had been called for. Some may come back broken in health, and it was the duty of us to see that they do not suffer. For this reason he urged that the Benevolent Fund should be large to meet the possible demands upon it.

Position of College of Pharmacy.—Mr. A. B. Chater drew attention to the serious financial position of the College of Pharmacy. There were only a few students attending. They had gone to the Minister for Education for a grant. Unless money was forthcoming, the director would have to go, and everyone would deplore the closing of the college.

Mr. G. J. Mackay also deplored the loss to pharmacy in the death of Mr. Peter McEwan. The chemists of Queensland were indebted to him for securing the services of Mr. Cowley. He went on to say that never before were the chemists of the State in such close touch with the council. The secretary was known personally to most of the members, and all the younger men passed through his hands as teacher. They were highly indebted to the president in several ways, especially in undertaking the northern trip at his own expense, and in providing refreshment for councillors and visitors.

The Poisons Regulations, he said, would be as stringent as any in the world, but there were compensations.

Price Fixing.—In commenting on price fixing, he said that he was in agreement with Mr. Jas. Wilkinson, who had laid it down as an axiom that it is useless to fix a price unless it can be controlled. The president had suggested the formation of suburban, metropolitan and other small associations, who could fix local prices. This, he contended, would be better than general price fixing.

College of Pharmacy.—Referring to the college, he had given his personal assurance that the director's salary should not be reduced, and he thought it might be necessary for the society to give a grant to the college to keep it going.

Enemy Trade Names.—As it would be impossible to prevent enemy trade names reverting to the former holders after the war, he suggested that chemists throughout allied countries should refuse to stock proprietary lines of enemy origin.

Title "Chemist."—Mr. Dent remarked that an attempt had been made on the part of the Institute of Chemistry and by a similar body in Aus-

tralia to substitute the title "pharmacist" for "pharmaceutical chemist." He considered that the filching of their ancient title should be strongly opposed.

The Dispensing Doctor. — Mr. W. A. Noble spoke of the difficulties they met with in the shape of harassing regulations without any compensations. In Toowoomba half the medicine supplied to the public came out of doctors' back rooms, doled out by housemaids, grooms, and others, without proper control. He considered that this kind of thing should be abolished. He had worked for upwards of 34 years for a bare living. If it had been otherwise he would now have been possessed of a competency. When doctors were spoken to about dispensing, the reply was that chemists should not prescribe. If they did not do so in Toowoomba, they could not live. Some years ago, the chemists of his town had approached the doctors on the subject of dispensing, and they were told that two people only were concerned in the case, the doctor and the patient. They asked where the chemist came in, and they were told that he might look after himself. "Now," the speaker said, "I would rather be a dispensing chemist than a prescribing chemist, but what can I do? Can the society help?"

Mr. L. Irwin (Laidley) said he could endorse all that Mr. Noble had said. He had contended with the difficulty for 15 years. Lately a new man had come into his town, from whom he had great expectations, but he was told he had purchased the dispensing portion of the practice along with the other, and he did not feel disposed to give it up. He suggested that the B.M.A. should be approached on the subject.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY.

The President, in replying to the different speakers, said the council were endeavouring to bring about harmony between doctors and chemists. At present the council is dealing with the subject of cipher prescriptions, and he thought the subject Mr. Noble complained of was also a suitable one to bring before the B.M.A. At the same time they would find that the new Poisons Regulations would make dispensing by doctors very difficult.

He enlarged on several clauses of the proposed Poisons Regulations, which would affect chemists, and said that on the whole they would be beneficial.

He spoke of the good terms which now existed between the council and various Government departments, who look upon the council as the proper channel for addressing chemists.

With regard to venereal diseases, the council was told by the Commissioner for Public Health that new regulations were about to be issued dealing with these diseases, and that a circular letter would be issued by the department to all chemists calling their attention to the fact that it would be no longer legal for them to prescribe for these diseases. It was his intention to prosecute in all cases of infringements of the regulations that came to his notice. He found that in the Brisbane area all the chemists were not conforming to the law in regard to this matter. Cases were known to him in which he intended to push for a high penalty.

The President urged upon members to read circulars sent from the office, and file them for future reference and guidance. The secretary was always at the command of members for advice on all matters pertaining to the craft.

He again emphasised the need of local co-operation, and pointed out the absurdity of petty bickering. Combination would put money in their pockets, and would increase their self-respect.

In commenting further on the report, he regretted the omission of the name of Thomas Ingham, an honorary member, from the obituary list.

He moved the adoption of the annual report, which was duly seconded, and carried.

Annual Statement of Receipts and Expenditure.—The treasurer presented the financial statement for the year, also that of the Benevolent Fund, which were adopted without comment.

ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS.

The Secretary read the returning officer's report, in which he stated that there were four candidates proposed for four vacancies, and he declared them duly elected. The council now consists of:—

H. E. Crease, R. C. Park, T. J. Rutter, J. A. Minnis, 3 years to serve.

D. J. Clarke, John Lunn, J. P. Davies, H. I. C. Dent, 2 years to serve.

A. B. Chater, R. Lenehan, G. J. Mackay, T. J. F. Costin, 1 year to serve.

Election of Auditors.—Messrs. W. J. Costin and J. C. Ward were re-elected.

Votes of thanks were passed to the president and council, the auditors, the press, and to the secretary and office staff.

Meeting terminated.

COUNCIL MEETING, AUGUST 15TH, 1917.

Election of Officers for the year 1917-1917:—

President—Mr. R. C. Park was elected nem. con.

Vice-President—Mr. J. P. Davies, unanimous.

Treasurer—Mr. H. I. C. Dent, unanimous.

Secretary.—Mr. R. C. Cowley was re-elected (at an increased remuneration).

Benevolent Fund Committee—The President, R. C. Park; the Treasurer, H. I. C. Dent; Mr. J. P. Davies, Mr. J. A. Minnis.

College Committee—Mr. R. C. Park, Mr. J. P. Davies, Mr. J. Lunn, Mr. H. I. C. Dent.

Business Committee—Mr. R. C. Park, Mr. G. W. Ward, Mr. R. Lenehan, Mr. G. J. Mackay, Mr. G. W. Marshall, Mr. T. J. F. Costin, Mr. J. P. Davies.

A sum of ten guineas (£10 10s.) was donated to the President, Mr. R. C. Park, towards his ex-

penses on his northern tour with the Secretary, in recognition of the very excellent services rendered by him.

Council Meeting, August 15th, 1917.

Attendance.—The President (Mr. R. C. Park), Messrs. H. I. C. Dent, T. J. Rutter, J. P. Davies, J. A. Minnis, T. J. F. Costin, A. B. Chater, G. J. Mackay, H. E. Crease.

Letters Inward.—From the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, inviting the secretary to attend a dinner in honour of Major Cossar, on occasion of his leaving for England on military duty; to which the secretary had replied by telegram.

From the editor of the "Chemist and Druggist," in reply to the council's letter on the flashlight photograph episode. This letter was directed to be acknowledged.

Correspondence between the secretary and a former member living in Sydney, who had made a statement in a certificate lodged in application for fellowship of the Chemical Society, in which he said he is a member of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales and Queensland, which statement, as far as Queensland was concerned, was challenged. The person questioned said that the word "is" was inadvertently used in place of "was." After discussion this explanation was accepted.

From the Department of Public Health, with reference to filters, which they recommended should be used for water employed in preparing medicines.

From the Townsville Chemists' Association, stating their appreciation of the action of the council in deputing the president and secretary to visit their town. The letter stated the visit had been the means of bringing the chemists together, and of founding a local association. This had enabled them to meet the drapers' and grocers' associations, and of fixing prices of commodities sold by these traders as well as by chemists.

From Messrs. Parke, Davis and Co., enclosing a donation to the Benevolent Fund.

From Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., enclosing a donation to the Benevolent Fund.

From Messrs. The Australian Drug Co., enclosing a donation to the Benevolent Fund.

Nomination as a Member.—Mr. Alex. Shearer, South Brisbane.

Election as Members.—Mr. William Robert Colledge, Brisbane; Mr. Douglas Cecil Groundwater, Maryborough.

As Associates.—Miss Iris Marguerite Symons, Mr. Ernest Henry Symons, Mr. William John Austin, Mr. William Atherton, Rockhampton.

Financial. — The financial statement of the month was read, and one account was passed for payment.

Other business was postponed until the September meeting of the council.

Meeting terminated.

Trade Meeting of Brisbane Chemists.

A meeting of the chemists of Brisbane suburbs was held on 4th September, 1917.

Present — R. C. Park, A. Forbes, H. W. Thomason, G. W. Ward, W. J. Costin, D. J. Clarke, H. I. C. Dent, G. F. Haenke, J. Richardson, T. J. F. Costin, R. Lenehan, H. E. Crease, W. R. Colledge, C. Ridgley, G. W. Marshall, J. P. Davies, J. Wilkinson, A. Everett, and M. M. Martin.

Mr. Park was voted to the chair. In his opening remarks, he pointed out that the cost of drugs was constantly on the upgrade, and that retailers were not selling at proportionately higher price. They were asked to meet to revise dispensing charges.

The list was then gone through item by item, and alterations were made.

It was resolved that the amended list be printed and sent to all master pharmacists within the State.

For unusual or expensive prescriptions, the following method was approved:—Add 50 per cent. to cost and 1/- as dispensing fee.

The opinion of the meeting was that the scale adopted must be looked upon as minimum charges, but special cases may arise when it is necessary to deviate, when the script should be marked, and the letters Sp. added.

It was resolved that all prescriptions dispensed should be legibly marked in a suitable position.

It was resolved that the Business Committee should meet and fix prices of proprietary articles, and submit them to a meeting of chemists for approval.

A chemist drew attention to the sale of goods by wholesalers to private persons. It was decided that a protest be lodged against the practice.

Meeting terminated.

Civil Action in Supreme Court.

Carl Schmidt, of Brisbane, mercantile manager, proceeded against Dr. T. P. Lucas for £270 3s. 3d., being the balance alleged to be due on account for services rendered, and money owing in connection with the sale of defendant's paw-paw remedies. Defendant denied the debt, and counter-claimed £161 on moneys paid, or as an alternative as breach of agreement, and £134 6s. 3d. for goods unaccounted for. The case occupied several days. The jury found for plaintiff, and awarded him £200. They also found for Schmidt on the counter-claim.

A Chemist and a Nurse in Difficulty.

William J. R. Tronton, chemist, Edward-street, Brisbane, and Norah Phillips, nurse, appeared before Mr. Archdall, P.M., on the charge that, on or about May 9th last, they murdered Mrs. Mabel Cameron. The whole of the time of the

court devoted to the case on Wednesday, 6th September, was taken up in the examination of the husband of the deceased. The case is still sub judice.

Business in Queensland.

The maritime strike is still responsible for holding up trade between Brisbane and North Queensland, consequently merchants are complaining of slackness of trade. It is fortunate that most North Queensland chemists hold large stocks owing to the distance from source of supplies. Mackay and its back country is said to be short of flour and other provisions. There is also a serious shortage of sugar sacks, and unless these are forthcoming the sugar mills must close down, and there will be much unemployment. The whole of the North is still unsettled, due to the late railway strike, and the existing maritime strike. The shearers' strike in the west is fizzling out.

Trade in the southern and central districts is fairly brisk. The chief difficulty lies in getting overseas supplies. Influenza colds among adults and mumps are prevalent.

Master chemists are acquiring the art of doing without assistants. While there are few or no men out of employment in the drug trade, there are practically no vacancies for assistants. When managers are required, there are few applicants for the positions. The exigencies of military requirements have combed the State clean of eligible men, excepting those whose home claims keep them back.

College Notes.

College of Pharmacy Excursion.

At the invitation of Mr. T. E. Turner, a party of students, about sixteen in number, attending the special evening class at the College of Pharmacy, held a Botanical excursion at Mooroolbark on September 9. Arriving at their destination shortly before noon, the students wandered over the hills in diligent search of specimens. On the green-capped hills of the Dandenong Ranges, Australian flora grows in profusion, and as a large number of early spring plants were in full bloom, the outing was very successful from every point of view. As Bacon says: "The breath of flowers is far sweeter in the air (like the warbling of music in the wind, when it comes and goes) than in the hand." Mr. Turner, who directs the students in their work, found and explained the features of representatives of fifteen different natural orders. The party subsequently climbed to the top of the principal peak in the district, about 2000 feet above sea level. From this point of vantage, a fine panoramic view of the rugged country for miles around was obtained. An adjournment was then made to Mountjoy House, where tea was provided, after which the return journey was commenced. The outing was most enjoyable and instructive.

South Australia.

The Poisons Regulations: Pharmacists Interview the Premier.

On August 20 the Premier and Chief Secretary (Hon. A. H. Peake) received a deputation organised by the Retail Chemists' Association, which requested that the administration of the Poisons Regulation be placed under the control of the Pharmacy Board, and that the opinion of the Crown law officers be obtained in the interpretation of the word "substance" in the regulation.

Major Smeaton, M.P., in the absence of the Hon. C. Vaughan, introduced the deputation, and briefly explained its object.

Mr. R. E. Guenther (president of the Defence Association) said it had come under the notice of his association that certain medicines containing poisons were being sold without any restriction by persons other than chemists and licensed vendors. Some control should be placed over the sale of those medicines. They had approached the Central Board of Health in the matter, and were told that the board had no jurisdiction in regard to the sale of medicines containing poisons. If such was the case, there should be some addition to the regulation made, so that they should come under the control either of the Central Board of Health or the Pharmacy Board. In most of the other States, and in Great Britain, the regulations controlling the sale of poisons were in the hands of the Pharmacy Boards, and it would be a good thing to place the administration of the Poisons Regulation in the hands of the Pharmacy Board in South Australia.

Mr. A. B. Cowling (secretary of the association) said that when the Poisons Act of 1862 was repealed by the Food and Drugs Act, 1908, provision was made for the restriction of the sale of poisons, but no regulations were made until the present regulation was gazetted in 1914, restricting the sale and providing for the separate storing of poisons. Licenses were granted with the approval of the Central Board of Health. The association now found that the approval of the Central Board of Health was not necessary for the sale of certain medicines which contained poison under list A of the schedule in the regulation. It was stated in the regulation that any substance containing a poison in list A should come under list B, and should only be sold under certain restrictions. On the attention of the Central Board of Health being drawn to that fact, they were told that the board did not interpret the word "substance" to mean any medicine which contained poison in list A of the schedule. The association had consulted their solicitor, who was of the opinion that the word "substance" in the regulation embraced that description. They now approached the Chief Secretary with the hope that it might be possible to obtain the opinion of the Crown law officers on that point.

Mr. E. F. Gryst, president of the Pharmacy Board, said that a chemist, or licensed person, in selling medicines containing poison, would take care to sell them in properly labelled bottles, and

to enter them in a poison book. Many deaths, especially of young children, had been caused by medicines containing poison having been sold in ordinary bottles. He reminded the Minister of a poisoning fatality amongst his near relatives recently, and concluded by stating that if the Board were entrusted with the administration of the Act it would be in capable hands.

Messrs. W. H. Porter and T. M. Young briefly supported the request.

The Premier, in reply, promised to consider the request and to get a report in the matter from the Central Board of Health. He would have to bear in mind the balance of good in the community, and whether the advantages of restricting the sale of poisons would be outweighed by the inconvenience and loss caused to the people generally.

The deputation was attended by Mr. Guenther, President of the Retail Chemists' Defence Association; Mr. A. B. Cowling, Secretary of R.C.D.A.; Mr. E. F. Gryst, President of Pharmacy Board; Mr. W. H. Porter, President of Pharmaceutical Society; Mr. T. M. Young, Registrar of Pharmacy Board and Secretary of Pharmaceutical Society; and Messrs. Patterson, Burden, and H. V. Moore.

Poison in Cows' Food.

At Dalebark, near Mount Barker, South Australia, Mr. Leslie Cowan, who owns one of the best Jersey studs in the State, has lost two pedigreed cows valued at more than £100, and a third animal is not expected to recover. On September 4th, the herdsman noticed that the cows were not eating their chaff ration with their accustomed avidity. An examination of the food showed that a quantity of poisonous sheep dip powder had been mixed with the chaff in all the feeding bins. In the afternoon one of the affected animals went down, and shortly afterwards died in agony. Then another one showed signs of trouble, and ultimately seven of the herd were suffering badly from poisoning. The police found that the sheep dip had been taken from a packet kept in the harness-room, and had evidently been placed in the feeding bins during Monday night.

Pharmacy Board Circular.

A circular letter, dated September 5th, 1917, has been forwarded to pharmacists by the Registrar (Mr. T. M. Young), drawing attention to the effect of the new regulations regulating apprenticeship. The letter points out that in future every lad desirous of becoming apprenticed must pass either the Board's Preliminary or the Senior Public *before* he can become indentured. It is incumbent on his prospective master to observe the following procedure: — Send his Senior or Preliminary Pass Certificate to the Registrar of the Board, enclosing £1 1s. for registration. His indentures and name are then registered by the Board in a Register of Apprentices, and his apprenticeship becomes legal and is recognised by the Board. The Indenture Forms must be filled in in triplicate, and may be obtained from the Registrar at 2s. 6d. for three copies, or 1s. a copy.

Every master pharmacist *at present* employing one or more apprentices *must* lodge with the Registrar an original copy or copies of all existing indentures with apprentices now being served for registration in the Register of Apprentices. This must be done within three months from this date. (It can be just as easily done now, without any trouble.) For registration of existing indentures no fee is charged. Do it now!

For Active Service Apprentices.—The masters of lads on active service must lodge with the Registrar a copy or copies of the indentures being served now to be registered as in Paragraph 2. No fee is charged.

Four Years' Time.—The indentures must be sent to the Registrar, duly signed and declared that the presents have been served. In case of transfer to another master or mutual cancellation, the Registrar must see the indentures within three months.

The Object of the Regulations is to prevent insufficiently educated boys from becoming so much cheap labour in chemists' shops, as you must be aware that a majority of boys, not passing the Preliminary at an early stage, never qualify. This is well spoken by the Magistrate who heard the recent Award Case for higher wages, who said:—"If a boy cannot pass his Preliminary first, he should not be apprenticed, as it tends to create an 'unqualified' class, who, for the most part, drift into the backwaters of the profession;" also to prevent the "post-dating" of indentures. The fact that the indentures in future must be produced to the Board within three months of signing gives both the intending apprentice and master a sufficient time of probation for each, and, in addition, the Board can see that the legal term of apprenticeship (four years) is served.

Tasmania.

Pharmacy Board of Tasmania.

The Board met at Hobart on August 20th.

Present—Messrs. M. Rushton (President), J. T. Weaver, H. T. Gould, W. B. Drake, and the Registrar.

Apologies were received for the absence of Messrs. T. James and H. Sidwell.

Alleged Contravention of Poisons Act and Pharmacy Act.—Two cases were mentioned on the Agenda Paper, one of which it was noted had been satisfactorily settled.

Police Court Proceedings.—Reported that the person recently prosecuted was now selling a preparation called "Snuffle" as a grease eradicator and picture reproducer.

Examinations.—A request from an apprentice desiring to enlist on active military service to be

allowed to sit for his final examination at the end of the third year, as his apprenticeship was further considered, but final consideration was deferred until next meeting, and a request from another apprentice for a special Intermediate Examination before entering upon his military duties was also dealt with. Letters from an apprentice and an intending apprentice concerning examinations were received, to which Registrar reported having replied. Replies were confirmed.

Registration.—Reported a certificate had been issued to Mr. Hedley Todd, care Messrs. A. P. Miller and Son, Hobart, and that the registration had been duly gazetted.

Removal.—Notice from the Police Department was received that Mr. H. J. Drew had settled at Georgetown.

Acting Brigadier-General Grimwade.—Letter from Felton, Grimwade and Co., dated 20th July, was received, thanking the Board for its letter of congratulation, and intimating that the letter had been sent on to the Brigadier.

Poisons Act.—Reported a licence had been issued to Mr. B. Watts, storekeeper, St. Helen's.

Consideration of the proposed regulations under the Act was advanced a stage, and was then adjourned until next meeting.

Finance. — Accounts amounting to £6 1s. 1d. were passed for payment.

P. A. T. A.

VICTORIA.

The Proprietary Articles Trade Association of Victoria continues to make progress. The following proprietary articles have been added to the list, and a fresh issue will probably be published in October:—"A.B." Tonic Wine, Analgesic Balm, Sal Hepatica, Gastrogen Tablets, Nicholas Aspro, Nujol, "Pakro" Seed Tape, Phosferine Tablets, Storaxol, Thermofuge, Wawn's Wonder Wool, "Dorothy" Face Powder, "Valeria" Face Powder, "Valeria" Cream, Valeria Skin Soap, Vivinol.

Prices change rapidly, and it is difficult to maintain an up-to-date list under existing circumstances. The membership shows a healthy improvement, and the work goes on day by day and week by week. At times, particularly during "sale" times, there is generally a crop of cases to be attended to, but with few exceptions the breaches of conditions of sale are satisfactorily healed up, and mostly before serious damage has accrued. In the exceptional cases stronger action has been taken, with good results.

The retail distributors would be well advised to encourage the manufacturers on the list by conserving their window shows to P.A.T.A. goods.

P. D. L.

The directors met at Melbourne on September 12:—

Present—Mr. F. Buckhurst (in the chair), and Messrs. Francis, Gulliver, Malyon, Mewkill, Rankin, and White. Apology for non-attendance from Mr. Sayer.

Correspondence. — From Elsternwick U.S.F. Dispensary, intimating that the committee had considered the directors' letter in reference to Rule 7, permitting of trading with the public, and had decided to delete it as requested.

Railways Department, in reference to a complaint made by a member that a bottle of medicine had been broken in transit, stating that the department could not accept liability for the breakage, and pointing out that had the package been labelled "glass" a higher rate would have been charged, and the difference would have justified the department in accepting liability.

Mr. F. J. Perry, Omeo, in acknowledging some services rendered by the P.D.L., wrote that he was very pleased that such a useful organisation existed, and that he was a member of it. He thought that every pharmacist should be justly proud of the Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd., and those who originated it.

Mr. J. Anderson, secretary of New South Wales branch, reported that he closes the books for the year on September 15, and would then forward audited statement, and also certificates of the balance in hand at that date. He also stated that Mr. H. B. Cox, the New South Wales president, was recovering from the effects of his recent accident. It was decided to forward a letter to Mr. Cox, sympathising with him in his illness, and wishing him a speedy recovery to his usual health.

A communication was received from the Western Australian branch in reference to the employment as military dispensers of unregistered chemists. It also appeared that the recommendations of the senior pharmacist in regard to appointments were not being given effect to. The Secretary stated that this matter was brought under Surgeon-General Fetherston's notice. General Fetherston subsequently issued instructions which had had the effect of rectifying the anomalous position referred to.

Election of New Members.—The following new members were elected:—

Altson, Dora, 109 Brighton-road, St. Kilda.
Mann, Henry H. W., 237 Bay-street, Brighton
Walker, James A. W., 271 High-street, Northcote.
Whittle, Lilian May, Portman-street, Oakleigh.

Legal Opinion.—A member submitted for legal opinion a case in which a pharmacist was deemed to have broken a covenant in an agreement which prohibited him from engaging or becoming interested either as owner, manager, or assistant, in any pharmacist's business within a radius of 20 miles from a certain town. The agreement provided that if this covenant was broken the

sum of £200 should be paid as and for ascertained liquidated damages, and not by way of penalty. The solicitor advised that two courses were open for the pharmacist to take—he could commence an action for the liquidated damages mentioned in the agreement, or he could apply for an injunction to restrain the vendor continuing to break his covenant. It would be necessary in the former case to prove actual damages. The agreement was not an unreasonable one, and could not be held to be in restraint of trade.

Wages Board. — It was reported that Parliament had approved of the appointment of a Chemists' Wages Board. The Factories Department had asked the directors to nominate three representatives of the employers. The chairman said that at the Wages Board Conference Major Cossar, Mr. J. C. Pickford, and himself had been selected to act as a committee to watch the Wages Board proposals, but that no definite selections had been made regarding the constitution of the Board itself. Mr. Rankin said that as Major Cossar would not be available, he would like to see a representative of the Metropolitan Chemists' Association on the Board. Mr. J. Pickford represented the Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. Buckhurst the P.D.L., and he suggested Mr. J. E. Wasley for the third place. Mr. Malyon asked whether the country would be represented. Mr. Francis said the difficulty was to make sure of country representatives being present. If they were absent the employers could be outvoted. The meetings would probably be held at night. Mr. Mewkill said that country pharmacists could rely upon the Melbourne representatives—the interests of all were similar. Mr. Rankin moved, Mr. White seconded, that Messrs. Buckhurst, Pickford, and Wasley be nominated on behalf of the P.D.L., and that a letter be forwarded to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society suggesting the appointment of these gentlemen, and asking for its concurrence.

General Business.—The preparation of the annual report was left in the secretary's hands.

It was reported that the renewal notices for 1917-18 had been sent out, on September 4, and that the response had been very satisfactory.

The treasurer and secretary were authorised to sign documents in connection with the War Loan on behalf of the company.

The Hon. Treasurer presented the monthly financial statement, accounts were passed for payment, and the meeting adjourned.

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society asks Members when ordering goods to give preference (other things being equal) to firms advertising in the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*. This service is mutual—advertisers are benefited thereby and the Members improve the value of their own journal as an advertising medium.

Legal.

Sale of Strychnine Not Recorded. Pharmacist Fined.

At the Jeparit (Vic.) police court on September 6th, Guy Willis Franklin, pharmacist, was charged with having sold 25 grains of strychnine to Joseph Laurence Foley, without having made the required entry in the Poisons Book. Defendant admitted having failed to enter the sale, but stated that he deferred doing so as deceased did not have a witness. Foley promised that he would call in the morning and bring a witness, when he would sign the Poisons Book. Deceased paid 1s. for the strychnine. Defendant was fined 20s.

Illegal Sales of Poison: Prosecutions in New South Wales.

"ARGENT" SILVERING SOLUTION.

At the Water Police Court, Sydney, on September 6th, before Mr. Payten, S.M., Martin Proctor, of 19 Hunter-street, was summoned for selling "Argent," an electroplating or silvering solution composed of cyanide of silver, contrary to the provisions of the Poisons Act. The sale was proved by Mr. Miller, an inspector under the Pharmacy Board. The Government Analyst's certificate was put in to show that the amount of poison contained in a single bottle of the poison sold was sufficient to kill 8 persons.

Defendant, giving evidence, said that he made it a rule not to sell retail, and he pleaded that the Act did not refer to the wholesale selling of any preparation of this description. His assistant, in this case, sold a single bottle inadvertently, but this was not his practice.

Mr. Miller stated that defendant had sold a considerable quantity of this line to country storekeepers, who had been told that they could sell it retail without infringing the law. This was not the case, and defendant had had a considerable quantity of his goods sent back from purchasers in consequence of their being informed of the truth in the matter by the inspector during his visit to country districts.

A fine of £3, with 6s. costs, or 21 days' imprisonment, was imposed.

The case against Miss Agnes Stark, the assistant, who sold the poison, was withdrawn, as the principal was fined.

CHEMIST'S ABSENCE FROM BUSINESS: ASSISTANT FINED.

Harold Brown was charged with selling a bottle of Scott's Compound, a preparation containing morphine hydrochlor and tartar emetic, poisons, he not being the holder of a licence to sell poisons under the Poisons Act. The case was defended by Mr. Kershaw, who appeared for accused.

N. M. Miller stated that accompanied by another inspector he visited the pharmacy of

Mr. Ottoway, of Victoria Street, Darlinghurst, on May 15th. He saw Mr. Ottoway leave the shop, and defendant was in charge, and made the sale complained of. On a previous occasion he had warned him not to sell poisons in the absence of his employer or of a qualified person in charge. He produced the certificate of the Government analyst to show that the article actually did contain the poisons named on the label of the bottle.

Harold Brown gave evidence that he was a chemist's apprentice not yet out of his time. He had passed all the University examinations, but not the Final examination by the Pharmacy Board. He admitted selling the article, Mr. Ottoway was only absent a few minutes, having gone to the bank. It was not always possible to leave a qualified man in charge of the business if the owner was absent only a few minutes.

Mr. Kershaw pleaded that owing to the scarcity of qualified men, it was practically impossible to get qualified men as assistants, and owing to the demand for qualified men for the war, the difficulty was getting acute.

Mr. Miller stated that this was not the case. Qualified men were obtainable, but masters would not pay them. He had instructed many pharmacists that if they were called away they should instruct their unqualified assistant, not to sell poisons or to dispense prescriptions during their absence, thus avoiding any breach of the law. On May 10th he had cautioned accused, but on May 15th the offence was committed. No notice had been taken of the caution given.

Mr. Kershaw pleaded that really this article came under the heading of a patent medicine, although strictly not being so. It was looked upon as a patent medicine, and classed as such in the trade lists.

Mr. Payten: But it has not been patented?

Mr. Kershaw: No, your Worship.

Mr. Payten: Then you cannot call it a patent medicine.

Mr. Kershaw said that the matter was a serious one, as practically every line a chemist sold would be debarred from sale if this reading of the Act was enforced. A man would not be able to leave his shop at all except he could afford to employ a qualified assistant. It would seem that the Inspector watched the shop, and no sooner did Mr. Ottoway turn his back than the inspector pounced upon the defendant, and induced him to commit a breach of the law.

Mr. Miller said that it was true that he was watching the shop, but for another purpose. The number of articles affected would not be very large, and probably would not exceed 25 in number. Chemists who went to the wholesale houses for the purpose of making purchases, or to the bowling green for a game of bowls, instructed the unqualified person left in charge that he must not dispense or sell poisons during the absence of the master. This arrangement worked well.

A fine of £1, with 6s. costs, was imposed, or 3 days' gaol.

"Wizard Oil" and the Spirits Act.

Use of Methylated Spirit.

A charge of having sold medicine containing methylated spirits, contrary to the provisions of the Commonwealth Spirits Act, 1906, preferred against Frank Weston, the manufacturer of "Wizard Oil," of St. Peter's, was heard at the Adelaide Police Court on August 17. The bench was occupied by Mr. S. J. Mitchell, S.M., and a bench of honorary justices. Mr. C. H. Powers prosecuted, and Mr. C. J. Coventry defended.

Mr. Powers said the information was laid under the Spirits Act. Spirits for human consumption paid a heavy Excise duty. Certain spirits were required for industrial and scientific purposes. In those cases the spirits were methylated, and made unfit for human consumption before they were allowed to pass out. The Act had two purposes—to prevent the public from being supplied with methylated spirits, and to protect the revenue. Messrs. G. P. Hale, of the Excise Office, and Mr. C. R. Churchward, analyst at the Customs Department, Port Adelaide, first visited the defendant's premises at St. Peter's on December 4, 1916. Bottles of "Wizard Oil" were obtained, and an analysis showed that the mixture contained methylated spirits. Mr. Weston denied that he used those spirits, and further samples were secured and sent to the Melbourne analyst, whose certificate supported that of the Port Adelaide official.

S. H. Rowe, Collector of Customs; A. O. Craigie, goods manager of Messrs. D. and J. Fowler's Ltd.; G. P. Hall, Customs officer; and C. R. Churchward, analyst, of the Customs Department, gave evidence.

Mr. Coventry, for the defendant, who pleaded not guilty, said that the evidence did not show that any methylated substance, as defined by the Spirits Act, was present in the sample taken.

Mr. Mitchell, S.M., held that the case had not been proved, and the information was therefore dismissed, with £2 10s. costs. Fourteen days were allowed in which to appeal.

(It is understood that the Commonwealth Customs Department is appealing to the High Court against this decision. Under the Spirits Act, the use of methylated spirits in the preparation of medicines for internal or external application (other than liniments and veterinary medicines) is prohibited.—Ed. "A.J.P.")

Defective Cream of Tartar.

Messrs. Williams and Currey and John Cook and Co., grocers, Bairnsdale, were each fined 10s., with 31s. 6d. costs, at the Bairnsdale Police Court on July 20, for selling adulterated cream of tartar, contrary to the Pure Food Regulations. In the first case, the Government Analyst stated that the sample contained two-sevenths of a grain of lead, whereas the regulation only allowed one-seventh of a grain per lb. For the defence, the following letter from Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co. was put in as evidence:—"We draw your attention to the statement in

our analyst's report that this had been examined according to the process of the British Pharmacopeia, 1914. This is the prescribed legal method for the analysis of this commodity, and, therefore, we are not at liberty to depart from it, but for several months past we have been accumulating chemical evidence that has forced us to regard with extreme suspicion the official method of testing for lead impurities. We are so strongly convinced that this method is faulty and attributes lead impurities to samples that are entirely free from lead that we intend laying the matter before the secretary of the Board of Health of Victoria, and asking that in the interests of traders and the public generally this method may be subject to complete investigation. To that end the chairman of the Board of Health had been interviewed, and a formal request had been lodged requesting that the matter be investigated. It may be of interest to know that for some years past we have been manufacturers of cream of tartar on a fairly large scale, and that we make our product from the dried wine lees of vineyards. We adopt a physical process only, and there are no chemical reagents or substances of any character added during the process. The entire plant from start to finish is iron, copper, brass, and wood, absolutely devoid of any trace of lead or solder, yet our cream of tartar when examined by the method under discussion fails to meet the standard of the Board of Health on account of its lead contents. By other tests the cream of tartar is lead free, and by its manufacture also we know it to be absolutely free of lead."

Mr. Grey, P.M., said that defendants would have to pay the penalty. It rested with the experts to determine whether the present tests were reliable or not.

In the second case against John Cook and Co., the analyst's certificate showed that the cream of tartar contained one-tenth of a grain of arsenic per lb., whereas the regulations only allowed one-hundredth of a grain per lb. Defendant stated that the cream of tartar had been purchased from James Bell and Co. It was contained in a wooden keg. He claimed that the article was up to the standard, but admitted that he had not obtained from the purchasers a written guarantee to that effect. The Police Magistrate, in fining defendants, said that the Government analyst's certificate must be accepted unless it was proved incorrect.

Prosecution Under Poisons Act.

Phenyle Illegally Sold.

At the Brighton (V.) Police Court on August 31, before Mr. P. Cohen, P.M., and a bench of honorary magistrates, Joseph Neal, hawker, Collingwood, was charged, under the Poisons Regulations, 1917, with having sold a liquid disinfectant (phenyle) not in accordance with the specifications set out in Regulation 13.

Mr. W. E. Pearcey appeared for the Pharmacy Board, and Mr. Tucker for the defendant, who pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Pearcey said that the regulations were drafted for the protection of the public, and had to be observed by all sellers of poisons. In this case, defendant was hawking phenyle about Brighton in a billy-can, and offering it for sale, without complying with any of the regulations as to the shape of the container, labelling, etc. The public were required to observe certain precautions relative to the safe custody of poison, but if they were sold an article which was not labelled in any way, how were they to know it was poison? The Board was constantly bringing these precautions before the courts, but apparently it was not putting a stop to the practice complained of.

Mr. Tucker said the magistrate had no jurisdiction in the case, as defendant had been previously fined for hawking phenyle without holding a hawker's licence. The facts were the same, and he argued that it had been held that a person could not be charged twice for the same offence.

Mr. Cohen, P.M., said there were two separate offences. He had decided to hear the evidence.

Constable F. C. Kearsley said that on July 10 defendant called at his house, and offered him phenyle for sale at 7d. per pint. He asked defendant if he held a hawker's licence. Defendant said he did, but when asked to produce it said he could not do so. In reply to a further question, defendant said he did not know the phenyle was a poison. Witness said he took a sample of the phenyle, and handed it to the Government analyst, under instructions received from the Registrar of the Pharmacy Board.

To Mr. Tucker: He did not leave a sample with defendant.

To Mr. Pearsey: When defendant was before the court previously, witness did not give the evidence relating to the sample of phenyle, and the handing of it to the Government analyst.

Charles Leslie Butchers, registrar of the Pharmacy Board, said defendant was not registered to sell poisons. He produced the certificate of analysis, which stated that the phenyle contained 6.73 per cent. of phenol compounds. This was more than twice the amount prescribed in the fourth schedule to the Act. It was, in his opinion, a dangerous poison.

Mr. Cohen, P.M., said that it was very necessary that these regulations should be observed. Deaths frequently occurred by persons taking phenyle. The object of the regulations was to protect the public. Prosecutions were the only means of letting the public know that the regulations were in force. Defendant would be fined 20s., with costs £1 15s., in default distress. A stay of proceedings for fourteen days was granted.

Errata.

In the article published last month on the Commonwealth Tariff, 1917 (Spirit Duties), in the line immediately before *Excise*, 5½d. per pound should have been 7½d. per pound. The figures, as corrected, are $\frac{63}{8.336} = 7\frac{1}{2}$d. per pound (approx.).

Correspondence.

Letters submitted for publication must be addressed to the Editor, and should reach the Office not later than the 16th of the month. They should be written clearly and concisely, on one side of the paper only, and must be authenticated in each case by the name and address of the writer. The views expressed by correspondents are not necessarily endorsed by the Editor.

To the Editor of the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

Dispensing Query.

The following prescription was presented to me to dispense:—

℞	Calcium Lactate	grs. xx.
	Muc. Trag.	q.s.
	Aq. Cinnam.	ad. ℥ s.
	Ft. Mist.	

Calcium Lactate is supposed to be soluble 1 in 10, but many of the commercial salts that I have handled are soluble 1 in 20, so I used hot water, and sent out a clear mixture, which was the way I was taught to dispense the above salt.

I told the patient the reason the medicine was clear and not cloudy as before. On afterthought, I believe I am wrong. Should I have dispensed the mixture as the doctor ordered (maybe he was ignorant, and did not know the solubility of the salt), or did I dispense mixture correctly?—Yours, etc.,

AJAX.

(We think the prescriber intended the mixture to be made up in suspension. In the B.P., 1914, Calcium Lactate is insoluble 1 in 18½. As the amount of the salt ordered was in excess of the official degree of solubility, the Muc. Trag. was probably added for the purpose of suspending the Calcium Lactate. Although the mixture, when dispensed with hot water, might present a clear appearance at first, it would gradually become cloudy after 24 hours had elapsed.—Ed.)

To the Editor of The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.

Alleged Exorbitant Charges.

Sir,—We respectfully ask the favour of being allowed to reply to Mr. Steinthal's letter in your August issue as follows:—

Taking his remarks in their order, we would like to say, firstly, that the newspaper report he complained of was in no sense at variance with the statements recorded in the "Heyfield Herald," excepting that the latter reported, in addition, Mr. Steinthal's evidence regarding the quality and value of his exhibit of pills. This we shall refer to presently. His remarks as to our having a grievance against pharmacists generally are both silly and groundless, as our sincere and friendly relations with many of that profession, and all our previous dealings with Mr. Steinthal himself, will confirm our unvarying goodwill towards that fraternity. We cannot answer for his strictures on an unknown contributor, but we presume that gentleman can take care of himself. Mr. Steinthal professes to be much puzzled as to the reason for such interest being taken in the case, which he incorrectly classes as a local matter of no public concern. As a matter of fact, public interest in the matter became very keen in consequence of some of Mr. Steinthal's actions prior to the law suit. The unexpected nature of the evidence he adduced in support of his claim at the court also surprised the public, and provided a text for much comment, especially amongst those who understand the pill business. On our own part we tried to get down to the bedrock of things generally after we recovered from the surprise of the turn of events, and we elicited the information that the firm which was supposed to have issued the "invoice" at 36s. per dozen could not trace such a transaction in its books, and denied the accuracy of same, and the makers of the pills also assured us that there certainly were no pills of the value stated in their lists, and that the wholesale price for "compound" pills, which plaintiff contended were his particular "blend," was not over 12s. per dozen at the alleged date of purchase. We are also of opinion that we proved from independent evidence that our exhibit and his exhibit at the court were, as we contended, and he denied, exactly similar in price and quality. These particulars and other correspondence which spontaneously came to us from many quarters, led us to believe that we had been unfairly treated, and it is not surprising that under the circumstances the plaintiff would like to consider the matter finally closed, and done with. His remarks re the increase in his business do not concern us, as our own trade has not been prejudicially affected, but we cannot reconcile his statement re having made no effort by way of advertising, with the fact that ever since the hearing of the case his advertisement in the "Heyfield Herald" has been fully four times as "ambitious" as it was previously, as per cuttings herewith. Naturally, Sir, we have our own opinion on the matter generally, and our many friends concur, but as further developments are pending, we refrain from expressing them in extenso at present.—Yours, etc.,

C. TEMBY & Co.

Traralgon, Sept. 10, 1917.

Answers to Correspondents.

J.H.—The standard for Quinine Tonic Wine provides that wine so described must contain quinine or a compound of quinine (calculated as quinine) in proportion of not less than five, not more than twenty, grains per pint.

J.F.B.—There is no provision in the Health Act regulations providing for the use of maize oil as a substitute for olive oil in medicinal preparations.

S.S.—The Pharmacy Board has been advised that it cannot register indentures of apprenticeship with the manager of a pharmacy. The master should enter into the apprenticeship. He can then delegate to you, as his manager, the duty of instructing the apprentice. His obligation is "to teach or cause to be taught."

G.W.—The usual weekly wage for apprentices is 5/- per week for the first year; 10/- for the

second year ; 15/- for the third year, and 20/- for the fourth year. Where no premium is paid the rate is sometimes less.

C.T.J.—Methylated spirit may not be used in medicine for internal use. Its use is permitted in aconite, belladonna, camphor, and soap liniment.

A.F.—Acid hydrobrom. dil. requires to be stated on the label attached to the container.

G.E. complains that quacks in his district are selling venereal remedies. Write to the Secretary of the Health Department.

Wages Boards.

Victoria.

Grocers' Wages and Hours.

The Grocers' Wages Board has been called together again at the instance of the employees' representatives, to consider the following proposed alterations in the existing award:—

1. Weekly hours to be reduced to 48.
2. Adults' wages to be increased by 10s. per week.
3. Provision of a flat rate for "all others" in lieu of the present rates.
4. Wages of juveniles to be increased by 2s. 6d. per week, and to be regulated by age instead of experience, the rate at 20 years to be 50s.
5. Easter Saturday to be included in the list of holidays.

The rates now obtaining were fixed on July 21, 1916, and are as follow:—Managers, 75s.; assistants (21-22 years), 55s.; 23 years, 57s. 6d.; and 24 years and over, 60s. The *Southern Grocer* of August 20th considers there is no justification for the increase. In an editorial on the subject it is pointed out that "in Victoria there are 2449 grocers' shops registered; 1044 have to pay their 2089 employees 46s. 4d. per week (plus the increase granted in 1916), and have to sell their goods in competition with the 1405 grocers who do not employ labour, and with the following list of privileged competitors:—

	Per Week.
465 Chemists' Shops, paying	33/10
360 Dairy Produce Shops, paying	27/8
195 Cooked Meat Shops, paying	32/-
1188 Bread and Pastry Shops, paying ..	20/6
2060 Confectionery Shops, paying	19/1
2142 Fruit and Vegetable Shops, paying..	22/3
2041 Mixed Shops, paying	24/3

"All these shops trade more or less in groceries. Many of them are allowed to keep open practically unlimited hours, and in the aggregate deprive the grocer of a very large proportion of his legitimate business. The grocer pays a counter hand 60s. a week to sell butter, and has to compete with the dairy produce dealer, possibly next door, who employs female labour at low rates, and is permitted to trade until 8 p.m.—two hours after his competitor, the grocer, is closed. 465 chemists pay their 671 hands only 33s. 10d. a week; doubtless this is a material advantage to those chemists who are at present selling condensed milk at cost price, and preventing neighbouring grocers from making any profit on the line.

"Irrespective of any increase in wages, every trader stocking groceries should be brought under the determination of the Grocers' Wages Board, and should be compelled to close at the same hour as the grocer. It has been shown that last year 150 grocers went out of business in the metropolitan area, a large proportion assigning their estates."

(The statement that chemists pay 33s. 10d. is incorrect. The departmental return states the average wage at 47s. 9d., which is higher than the average wage of grocery employees.—Ed.)

Chemists' Board Passed.

In the Legislative Council on September 4, the Hon. W. L. Baillieu, Honorary Minister, moved—

That it is expedient to appoint a Special Board to determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to any person employed in a shop, dispensing, compounding or selling medicines, drugs, or medicinal preparations.

He submitted practically the same particulars as the Premier did in the Lower House (vide "A.J.P.," August, 1917, pages 375-377), and concluded by saying that if a Board were appointed a uniform minimum wage would have to be paid. The employees in some places would benefit, and the good employers would not be subjected to unfair competition by other employers who at present pay much lower wages..

The Hon. W. S. Manifold asked the House to oppose the resolution. He did not like to see two Boards appointed when one would suffice. Regarding the Chemists' Board, he had been informed that both employers and employees were very much opposed to the creation of a Board. On a previous occasion, a large percentage of employees voted against it, being thoroughly satisfied with their conditions. It now appeared that some of the employees, by threatening to take the case into the Arbitration Court, had managed to persuade two of the employers to join in the application for a Wages Board. The whole of the rest of the profession and a large proportion of the employees were, he was given to believe, decidedly against the creation of the Board. They wanted to be left alone. Some of the figures supplied were misleading. The printed papers stated that there were 65 girls under 21 years getting an average wage of 8s. 10d. a week. Probably the return included persons engaged merely in sweeping out shops and that sort of thing. He was informed that chemists took apprentices and received a premium, which was repaid in small weekly instalments during the term of appren-

ticeship. It could not be called wages—it was really a sort of pocket money. He thought the Minister was wrong in attempting to get a Wages Board for chemists' assistants against the will of the whole profession, excepting the two chemists he had referred to, and most of the employees.

Hon. John WcWhae supported Mr. Manifold. The Board was not wanted by either side. He knew there was a strong feeling amongst chemists in Melbourne against the Board. In a number of cases a premium of £100 was paid by persons who desired to become chemists, and while they are learning the profession they get something like 8s. a week pocket money. In this way, the money they paid as a premium was to some extent repaid to them. Why should they create a Board which neither side wanted?

Hon. J. D. Brown moved the adjournment of the debate. The information before the House was contradictory. It was in the interests of both parties that the matter should be cleared up, because, apparently, statements had been made which were not in accordance with fact. If it was a fact that the employers did not want a Board, why had they not communicated their desires to the Minister?

Hon. W. J. Beckett failed to see the necessity for an adjournment. This question had been before the House for some weeks. He very much doubted the accuracy of the statement that the Board was not desired by either side. He had been told on good authority that the majority of chemists were in favour of the motion. The matter was considered by the Pharmaceutical Society, which appointed Mr. Lee, of Prahran, and Mr. Pickford, of Armadale, to go into the matter. They reported in favour of a Board. Subsequently the Council of the Society, by an almost unanimous vote, gave their approval to the constitution of a board. The opposition to the board seemed to be the same as was evident when the matter was previously discussed. In view of the fact that the Council of the Society, which represented chemists all over the State, had considered the proposal on its merits, he could not understand the opposition. He knew of no body of employees who would object to the board. A Wages Board was required. If it were denied the matter would be taken to a higher court, and much trouble and expense would be entailed upon chemists as a body and individually. Why should not men who had had a University training receive less than a labourers' pay. He hoped the matter would not be postponed.

Hon. W. L. Baillieu agreed to a week's postponement. The debate was adjourned to September 11th.

The debate on the motion was resumed on September 11th.

The debate (adjourned from 4th September) was resumed on 11th September, on the motion of the Hon. W. L. Baillieu (Hon. Minister)—

"That the Council concur with the Assembly in agreeing to the following resolution, viz.:—'That it is expedient to appoint a Special Board to determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to any persons employed in a shop dispensing, compounding, or selling medicines, drugs, or medicinal preparations.'"

The Hon. W. S. Manifold: I desire to make a personal explanation in connection with this motion. When we were discussing it last Tuesday, I stated that I had been informed that there were only two master chemists who were in favour of a Wages Board, and that they had been practically intimidated into consenting to it, through fear of being brought before the Arbitration Court. I also said I was informed that the greater number of the employees would very much prefer to be left alone, as they were thoroughly satisfied with their position. In fact, they had petitioned against being brought under a Wages Board. I have since placed myself in communication with the Pharmaceutical Society, and also, incidentally, with the Chemists' Association, and I find that the information given me was absolutely wrong. Whatever may be the private feelings of the master chemists, I have no doubt they would all prefer not to have to work under a Wages Board——.

The President: The honorable member cannot discuss the motion in the course of a personal explanation.

The Hon. W. S. Manifold: I have received a communication from the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, in the course of which he says that the matter was fully discussed at a full meeting of members held in March last, and the proposal for a Wages Board was adopted. Subsequently, conferences were held between the master chemists and their assistants, and according to the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*, which is the official organ of the chemists, I believe, it was unanimously agreed that a Wages Board should be applied for. I find that at one of these meetings the voting in regard to the constitution of a Wages Board was forty-three in favour, and seven or eight against it. Notwithstanding this fact, I was informed that only two members were in favour of a Wages Board. I regret very much that I should have been led into making the statements I did last week; but honorable members will agree it was not my fault.

The Hon. J. D. Brown: I moved the motion last week for the postponement of this particular matter, but I understand the Minister has a statement to make on the subject.

The Hon. A. Robinson (Honorary Minister): Since the matter was before the House last week, a report has been obtained by my leader from the Department of Labour, and information has also come to him from various quarters which it is just as well should be placed upon record. In a letter to the Honorary Minister (Mr. Baillieu), the Secretary for Labour says:—

CHEMISTS' BOARD.

Sir,—Referring to the debate in the Legislative Council on Tuesday, the 4th inst., I have the honour to inform you that both employers

and employees desire the appointment of this Board. The officers of this Department cannot call to mind any resolution asking for the appointment of a Board ever set before the Legislative Council that received more unanimous support from both employers and employees. The deputation of employers which waited upon the Minister of Labour to ask for this Board on the 16th May last claimed to represent the whole of the chemists in the Metropolitan District. It was said at that deputation that, with the exception of a very few—I think the number mentioned was three—the rest of the chemists desired unanimously that a Board should be appointed. Their desire arose from the fact that they are suffering certain competition from other traders at present, which they believe the Board will cure, and they also feared that their employees would take them into the Arbitration Court.

A meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society was held on Wednesday, the 5th inst., and reaffirmed the previous decision of the Council in favour of a Wages Board. I beg to attach a letter on that point from Mr. C. L. Butchers, the Secretary, which says that at that meeting 75 per cent. of the metropolitan chemists voted for a Board.

On the question of the correctness of the figures relating to females under 21 years of age, the following statistics are rather more detailed than those already supplied. They relate to apprentices and shop assistants who assist in dispensing and selling medicines. In no case—either adults or juveniles—has any servant or person engaged at such work as sweeping out the shop or otherwise been included. The figures in all cases refer only to employees who have actually qualified as chemists or to employees in chemists' shops and dispensaries who are doing the work of chemists, selling goods over the counter, and mixing medicines:—

		Wages per week.
		s. d.
1	received	none
8	received	2 6
21	received	5 0
7	received	7 6
9	received	10 0
2	received	12 0
5	received	12 6
1	received	15 0
1	received	17 6
2	received	20 0
1	received	25 0
1	received	30 0
Total 65		

Average wage, 8s. 10d.

H. M. MURPHY,
Secretary for Labour.

Honorable members will see from the figures I have just quoted that women in other avocations of life receive a much greater remuneration than those employed in chemists' shops. A letter received from the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia under date 6th September is as follows:—

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.
Melbourne, 6th September, 1917.

Sir,—Relative to the question raised in the Legislative Council on the 4th inst. during the discussion on the Chemists' Wages Board resolution, I am desired to state that at a meeting of the council of the above Society held yesterday, it was decided to re-affirm the previous decision of the council in favour of a Wages Board for chemists in the terms of the resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly.

I am further requested to point out that the decision supporting the resolution now before Parliament was the outcome of several friendly conferences between representatives of the master pharmacists and the employees.

I might also add that the question was fully discussed at the 60th annual meeting of the Society held in March last, after due notice of the proposed discussion had been given to every member. After exhaustively considering the council's report, the meeting endorsed, by a large majority, the recommendations in favour of a Wages Board, subject to the proviso that satisfactory assurances were received from the Department of Labour in regard to the wording of the resolutions, and that only qualified pharmacists should be appointed on the Chemists' Board.

These assurances were subsequently received, and the resolutions submitted to the Legislative Assembly, and passed without amendment. They met with the approval of the special committee representing master pharmacists and the employees, and no written objection has been raised to them by any pharmacist in Victoria, so far as the Society, which represents 75 per cent. of the chemists in business, is concerned.—Yours faithfully,

C. L. BUTCHERS, Secretary.

H. M. Murphy, Esq.,
Secretary for Labour, Melbourne.

I have a number of other letters, but those I have quoted make the case for the motion unanswerable. It is apparent that there has been an agreement between the employers and employees that a Wages Board should be created for this industry or calling, which, as honorable members know, is of a professional or semi-professional nature. The facts which have been placed before honorable members would appear to indicate that the skill which is required in this business is inadequately paid for. The position emphasises the point that more clamant and noisy people sometimes get a larger proportion of the wages that are paid than those who are more skilled but less noisy in their disposition. The Government hope that the House will agree to the motion without delay. I should like to express the appreciation which all of us feel of the attitude adopted by the unofficial Leader of the House. It is entirely in accord with what every honorable member would expect of him.

The Hon. J. D. Brown: The debate on this motion was adjourned because the information

given by the Minister, and statements made in the House, were absolutely contradictory. In future I think we should insist on the House being approached by petition in these matters, instead of gentlemen coming here and interviewing honorable members in the corridors — a practice which should not be encouraged.

The Hon. H. F. Richardson said that, without entering into the merits or demerits of the proposal, he intended to vote against it.

The motion was agreed to.

Dispensaries' Wages Board.

In the Legislative Council on the 11th September, the Hon. W. L. Baillieu (Honorary Minister) moved:—

That the Council concur with the Assembly in agreeing to the following resolution:—

That it is expedient to appoint a Special Board to determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to any persons employed in dispensing, compounding, or selling medicines, drugs or medicinal preparations in a Friendly Society's or hospital dispensary.

He said: It is unnecessary for me to repeat information which has already been supplied to the House in connection with the previous resolution. Practically the same information applies to this motion. Honorable members have been furnished with a printed slip containing the usual items of information in connection with motions of this kind, and they have also heard the statement which was read by Mr. Robinson.

The Hon. W. J. Beckett: I presume that the House is going to pass this motion, which is only a measure of justice. It is gratifying to find that the House, by nearly a unanimous vote, adopted the motion for a Wages Board for chemists' assistants, and, no doubt, it will follow as a matter of course that this proposal for a Board for assistants in dispensaries will be also agreed to. I wish to briefly refer to the splendid example shown by Mr. Manifold. As I mentioned last Tuesday, there is evidently——

The President: The honorable member cannot refer to a debate that took place in this House last Tuesday night.

The Hon. W. J. Beckett: As far as the Wages Board now proposed is concerned, I only wish to say that no doubt honorable members have been subjected to the same amount of lobbying as in connection with the other motion. It shows how necessary it is in all these matters to go right to the fountain-head. If all the available information were obtained from the employers and employees' unions, then we should know the exact position. In bringing such motions before the House it should be the duty of the Minister to make us acquainted with the views of both sides. If the Minister had brought before us last week the official views of the associations of employers and employees, the House, I believe, would have agreed to them unanimously.

The motion was agreed to.

War Notes.

Letters from the Front.

Staff-Sergt. H. A. Emonson (No. 14, A.G.H.), writing to the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, Melbourne, on June 23, from Egypt, says that he is kept very busy attending to the wants of patients. Between times the dispensing staff enjoy a game of cricket. Lieut. Ward (N.S.W.), the dispenser in charge, in one match scored a century, and on the day that St.-Sergt. Emerson wrote T. B. de Gruchy (late assistant to Mr. E. T. Church) knocked up 50 runs against a garrison team. J. W. Nobbs and F. J. Mathias had both been in Egypt at the time the letter was written. One night, when in Cairo, Staff-Sergt. Emonson asked a pharmacist what the wages of assistants were. He was told they varied from £8 to £12 a month. In a recent article in the "Egyptian Mail," comment was made of the excessive numbers of pharmacies in Egypt, and the allegation was made that many of them were merely sly-grog shops. Staff-Sergt. Emonson says he has made up more Lolio Nigra since coming to Egypt than he had seen during the whole of his previous career. Blackwash is made up by the gallon each day. He sends his kind regards to Mr. A. E. Sayer (Bendigo) and Mr. T. E. Turner.

Brigade Signal Officer Colin H. Simpson, writing from France on July 6, describes the important work undertaken by his brigade in connection with the recent operations at Messines. He has had numerous escapes from shell fire. His nerves being affected he was given leave, and had spent a very enjoyable

holiday in England, visiting the Isle of Man and other centres of interest. He has managed to secure a large number of trophies, which he thinks will be of considerable interest to his Australian friends. He says he is longing to get home again, and to complete his pharmaceutical course, and desires to be remembered to his College friends and the various lecturers. Lieut. Simpson furnishes some interesting details in connection with the battle of Messines, but censorship conditions prevent these being published. A photograph of Lieut. Simpson, taken in London whilst on leave, just after the Messines battle, appears in this issue.

Pharmacists for India.

The following is the official list of pharmacists who recently left Australia for service in India:—

New South Wales.
Bailey, R.
Brennan, H. T. C.
Derrett, —.
James, —.
Keswick, —.
Ross, H.

Queensland.
Beresford, J. Q.
Connolly, E. P.
Menzies, A. B.
Morgan, D.
Monahan, A. J.
Shewan, H. A.

South Australia.
Brooks, W. L.
Martindale, C. F.
Rowe, A. C.

Victoria.
Achary, H. F.
Bailey, H. E.
Bayley, P. R.
Battarbee, M. P.
Collins, M. J.
Evans, E. P.
Holmes, A.
Hughes, E. C.
Jones, H. W.
Johnson, W. L.
Pinches, W. T.
Ponting, S. W.
Turner, F. A.
Younger, R. S.
Usher, N. L.

Tasmania.
Elliott, I. R.
Fitzgerald, A. V.
Holmes, L. A.

Australians on Service.

KILLED IN ACTION.

Barnard, Lieutenant Norman F. W., of the 1st Pioneer Batt., A.I.F., only son of Councillor F. G. A. Barnard, pharmacist, of Kew.

Late Lieut. N. F. W. Barnard.

Much regret was expressed in pharmaceutical circles when it became known that Lieut. Barnard had been killed in action in France on August 23. Lieut. Barnard had a fine scholastic record, and at the time of enlistment was a surveyor in the employ of the Victorian Lands Department. He enlisted as a private in the Engineers. On reaching London he was sent to the officers' school, and on January 1 this year he was appointed lieutenant. He only saw three months' active service before he was killed, at the age of 23. Mr. Barnard's only daughter is a nurse at a hospital in France.

Promotions.

Sergt. Louis Barker, who left Australia with the rank of Corporal, has been promoted to Sergeant.

Mr. W. H. Porter, Port Adelaide, has received word that his son and apprentice Jack Porter, has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant, and has won the Military Medal.

Mr. E. Lipsham, of Messrs. F. H. Faulding and Co., Adelaide, has been advised that his son, E. F. Lipsham, who is in France, has been promoted to the rank of Staff-Sergeant.

Mr. H. J. Parker, pharmacist, has been advised that his son, Captain Keith Shelly Parker, A.A.M.C., has been awarded the Military Cross. Captain Parker is an old Sydney Grammar School Boy, and is a graduate of the Sydney University Medical School. Mr. H. J. Parker has been in business as a pharmacist at 132 William-street for many years.

Enlistments.

Arthur Sutcliffe, chemist's apprentice, Johnston-street, Abbotsford (5/9/17).

General.

Staff-Sergt. Byron L. Stanton returned from France on September 19. He intends resuming his medical studies.

Major Cossar, Staff-Pharmaceutical Officer, who left Melbourne a few weeks ago, telegraphed from Albany during the month that he had arrived there after a good trip across the Bight.

Lieutenant F. N. Grimwade, of the Royal Flying Corps, was one of the first two Australians to be released from Switzerland. According to a cablegram received from London on September 8, he will reach England shortly. Lieutenant Grimwade is the son of Mr. E. Norton Grimwade, of Melbourne. He was wounded in an air battle in France, and was given no succour in a German hospital because he refused to afford information as to the whereabouts of the British Fleet, telling the Germans to "come out and look for it." He was sentenced to three years' imprisonment upon an accusation of having called the Germans cowards. He served four months, and was then released and sent to Switzerland. He was reported recently to be lame, and partly deaf. He asserted that the British prisoners had suffered greatly at the hands of the Germans.

Queensland Military News.

Mr. Percival Gee, manager of the London Pharmacy, Ipswich, has enlisted, and will go into camp shortly.

A letter recently received from **Staff-Sergt. J. Burke**, stated that he is serving in France in an advanced base hospital. He was in good health at the time of writing.

Staff-Sergt. A. E. Whitehead has recently undergone an operation for appendicitis in the 6th Aust. General Hospital, Kangaroo Point. He is progressing favourably.

Private McLean, of Mackay, a young pharmacist, has returned unfit for further service. He is returning home from Brisbane shortly, showing improvement in health.

Six young men have recently left the 1st military District as Staff-Sergt. dispensers for service in India, viz.:—H. Shewan, D. Morgan, E. T. Connolly, A. J. Monahan, J. Q. Beresford, and A. B. Menzies.

Food & Drugs.

Value of Infants' Foods.

In a letter published in "The Argus" of August 17, on the subject of baby clinics, Dr. W. Spalding Laurie expressed the view that "by the use of patent foods mortality may be reduced, but healthy children are not produced." The Bacchus Marsh Concentrated Milk Company Limited claims that so far as the infants' food which it manufactures under the name of "Lactogen" is concerned, Dr. Laurie's statement that healthy children are not produced by being fed on it cannot apply. Lactogen is composed of dried cow's milk, with lactose and cream added in order to make its composition as close as possible to that of human milk. The company further points out that the director-general of Public Health in New South Wales has recommended for infants in cases where natural milk is scanty a "food made from one of the good brands of dried milk."

German Drugs: Aspirin.

In the Federal House of Representatives on August 22nd, Mr. Fenton said that some time ago there was a rule that aspirin and other German drugs and secret processes were not allowed to be manufactured by chemists unless they received the approval of the Commonwealth Analyst. It was now stated that any chemist, without restriction, may manufacture these goods. Was that true or not?

Mr. Hughes (Prime Minister), in reply, said: —That is true. Until the new regulation, or cancellation of the old one, whichever it was, no man could manufacture aspirin except by licence, and the licence was issued to one person only, a man named Nicholas. His production was analysed by Mr. Wilkinson, who pronounced it to be of excellent quality. He has had the run of the market for eighteen months or two years; and I take it that he has been able to do one of two things—either prove that he can make a good article or the reverse. If he has made a good article, Nicholas' aspirin will sell, and chemists will not buy such an article on speculation from anyone else. Anybody can make aspirin and anybody can take it, but, while that is so, it is a fact now, as it was before the war, that people prefer to take a drug about which they know something. In my opinion, there is ample safeguard now, and chemists will not buy, nor doctors order, a drug that is inferior.

Denatured Alcohol for Bathing Purposes.

The Inland Revenue Department of the United States permits the sale of alcohol rendered unfit for beverages and has approved the following combination as exempting alcohol from revenue taxation and permitting its use for bathing and antiseptic purposes.

1. Alum 10 grains, camphor 5 grains, alcohol 4 oz.

2. Carbolic acid, 1 part, alcohol 99 parts.

3. Formaldehyde 1 part, alcohol 250 parts.

4. Alum 2 ounces, sulphate of zinc 1 ounce, alcohol 1 gallon.

5. Alum 1 dram, camphor 1 ounce, alcohol 1 pint.

6. Bichloride of mercury 1 part, alcohol 2000 parts.

7. Alum 2 ounces, salicylic acid 2 ounces, oil of gaultheria 2 ounces, water 1 pint, alcohol q.s. 1 gallon.

8. Carbolic acid 2 drams, oil of gaultheria 20 drops, alcohol 1 gallon.

9. Bichloride of mercury 0.8 gram, hydrochloric acid 60 cc., alcohol 640 cc., water 300 cc.

10. Bichloric of mercury 1½ grains, hydrochloric acid 2 drams, alcohol 4 ounces.

11. Bicarbonate of soda 3 ounces, extract of hamamelis 16 ounces, water 16 ounces, alcohol 16 ounces.

12. Formaldehyde 2 parts, glycerin 2 parts, alcohol 96 parts.

13. Oil cajuputi 1 dram, alcohol 1 pint.

14. Tannic acid 12 parts, alcohol 125 parts, water 125 parts.

15. Carbolic acid 1 dram, tannic acid 1 dram, alcohol 1 pint, water 1 pint.

16. Alum ½ ounce, formaldehyde 2 drams, camphor 1 ounce, alcohol and water each 1 pint.

17. Lysol 1 part, alcohol 99 parts.

18. Liquor cresolis Comp. (U.S.P.) 10 cc., alcohol 1000 cc.

German Trade Marks.

Mr. Page (for Mr. Anstey) asked the Prime Minister, upon notice, in the House of Representatives on September 5—

1. What is the reason for revoking the suspension of the registration of German trade marks?

2. Why is it stated in the *Commonwealth Gazette* of 26th July, 1917, that the registration of German trade marks is to be "avoided"?

3. What alteration in administration is made by the substitution of the word "avoided" for the previously used word "suspended"?

Mr. Hughes: The answers to the honorable member's questions are as follow:—

1. The suspension of enemy trade marks in favour of individuals was intended merely to assist local manufacturers who satisfied the Government that they could manufacture goods of substantially the same quality as those to which the trade marks had been applied, to place their goods on the market, and thus oust the enemy article. It was intended that the suspension should not be operative indefinitely, but merely until the local manufacturers had an opportunity to introduce their goods to the public. Sufficient time having, in the view of the Government, been given for this purpose, the suspension was revoked.

2 and 3. The trade marks in question were avoided in order to abolish the rights given to the proprietors by registration and to permit public use of certain trade names. The suspension of a mark suspends the rights of the proprietor during the period of suspension, but those rights become fully operative on the expiration of that period. In addition, suspension makes the public use of the trade mark an offence.

Important Proprietary Medicine Appeal Case: Formulas Not to be Disclosed.

A very important decision has been given by the New York Supreme Court in its Appellate Division. The matter arose out of an appeal on the part of E. Fougera and Sons against a formula disclosure ordinance of the New York Board of Health. It appears that the decision was based on the theory that the ordinance was unreasonable, as it destroyed the trade secrets of the plaintiff. The public health was guarded by laws concerning narcotics and poisons, but to put all proprietary medicines in one class and to demand the disclosure of the formula on the label was thought to be neither equitable nor just. There were five judges on the bench. Judge Scott delivered judgment on behalf of the court. After declaring the ordinance unreasonable, illegal, and unconstitutional, he said:—

The several plaintiffs are manufacturers or dealers in what are commonly known as proprietary or patent medicines intended to be used internally. Many of these medicines have been in common use for years, so that their names have become familiar to the public. Their ingredients and the formulae under which they are prepared are jealously guarded trade secrets, and as such are considered to be of great trade value.

It is conceded that the Board of Health has power to enact a sanitary code, and that the sections above referred to, if valid, have all the force and effect of law. But while the Board of Health has power to enact sanitary ordinances, these particular sections of the code have not been ratified by the legislature. They are therefore open to attack on the ground of unreasonableness, as they would not be if enacted by the legislature or specially ratified by the legislature.

Effect of Disclosures Admitted.

Section 117, to which the plaintiffs particularly objected, providing for the sale of proprietary and patent medicines, requires as to every proprietary or patent medicine held, offered for sale, or given away in the City of New York that the names of every ingredient, except such as are physiologically inactive, must either be made public by being clearly and legibly set forth in English upon the container in which the medicine is held, offered for sale, or given away, or that the names of all such ingredients shall be registered in the department of health. It is admitted that the disclosure to the plaintiff's competitors of the means of the physiologically active ingredients of said preparation might enable competitors to ascertain therefrom the proportion of the ingredients, and the methods of combining them, and that revealing such information might result in great damage and injury to the business of the plaintiff in which it has invested a large amount of money.

It is thus possible, and, as the plaintiffs argue, probable, that the disclosures of the secret formulae to their competitors, to which the several plaintiffs most seriously object, would result. They insist that the proviso in the ordinance that the names of the ingredients of the proprietary and patent medicines registered in accordance with the terms of the section, and all information relating thereto or connected therewith, shall be regarded as confidential, and shall not be open to inspection by the public or any person other than the official custodian of such records in the department of health, and certain other persons in the public service, does not afford certain or adequate protection to their trade secrets, and it is admitted from the agreed case that complete protection cannot be assured if the ordinance be carried out. We may assume, therefore, that the enforcement of the ordinance will endanger and perhaps destroy the plaintiffs' trade secrets.

Trade Secrets are Property.

That such trade secrets are property and often valuable property, and will in proper cases be protected by the courts against unauthorised disclosure, cannot be and is not denied, and under the concession contained in the agreed case it is apparent that the enforcement of the ordinance may result in depriving the plaintiffs of their property by destroying the secrecy which alone gives value to their formulae. This is claimed to be forbidden both by the Federal and State statutes. The ordinance does not compel plaintiffs or anyone else dealing in or manufacturing patent or proprietary medicines to make their secret formulae public. It merely forbids them to hold or deal in the medicines within the City of New York without publishing or registering their therapeutic ingredients. As to all the rest of the world, they are left free to deal with them as they see fit. The effect of the ordinance cannot be, therefore, utterly to destroy the secrecy of the formulae, unless plaintiff elects to run the risk.

The enforcement of the ordinance need not, therefore, utterly destroy the value of the plaintiffs' cherished trade secrets, but merely reduce the opportunity to derive profits therefrom. Still, the plaintiffs are entitled to protection against even this partial interference with their business if it is unlawfully threatened.

A consideration of the question of whether or not the ordinance is a valid exercise of the police power is fairly well defined in Lawton *v.* Steele (152 U.S., 133-137), where it was said by Mr. Justice Brown, speaking for the Supreme Court, that "it must appear first that the interests of the public generally, as distinguished from those of a particular class, require such interference, and, second, that the means are reasonably necessary for the accomplishment of the purpose, and not unduly oppressive upon individuals." The legislature may not, under the guise of protecting the public interest, arbitrarily interfere with private business, or impose unusual and unnecessary restrictions upon lawful occupations.

Other objections are urged to the validity of the ordinance, which it is unnecessary to discuss. For the reasons already stated, we are of the opinion that the ordinance in its present form is legally objectionable, and is invalid.

Judgment will therefore be entered in each case in favour of the plaintiffs therein as prayed for in the submissions, without costs.

In commenting on this decision, the *Pacific Drug Review*, August, 1917, from which the above report is taken, says the victory of Fougera and Co. reveals that the ordinance is clearly shown to be in conflict with Federal laws, and the provisions of treaty agreements between the United States and foreign countries. It is said that 60,000,000dol. of capital invested in proprietary medicines in New York City alone has been safeguarded by the decision of the Appellate Court.

Trade & Commerce.

Price of Sulphate of Ammonia.

By Proclamation under the War Precautions (Prices) Regulations, the selling price of sulphate of ammonia has been fixed at £19 a ton in Queensland, and £18 in the other States.

Australian Imports and Exports.

The official figures relating to Australian imports and exports for the year ended June 30th, 1917, have been published. They show a decline in imports of £1,277,331 on the previous year, and an increase of £21,824,233 in the value of exports. The figures for drugs and chemicals are as follows:—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1915-16	1916-17	1915-16	1916-17
Drugs and Chemicals—				
Acid, Tartaric ..	117,369	108,827	—	—
Cream of Tartar	398,640	190,124	—	—
Other ..	1,238,081	1,297,966	113,833	99,819

For July, 1917, imports of drugs and chemicals to the value of £112,922 passed through the Customs, compared with £147,658 for July, 1916.

Strychnine a Necessary Commodity.

It was notified in the "Commonwealth Gazette" issued on September 13th that glucose, strychnine, and glass bottles had been included under the prices regulation of the War Precautions Act. Glucose has been classified as a food-stuff, and the other articles as necessary commodities. The object of this Proclamation is to bring the articles named within the scope of the Federal Prices Commissioner.

Importation of Spirits.

A special "Commonwealth Gazette" was issued on September 13 prohibiting the importation to Australia of essences of whisky, rum, brandy, cognac, Maraschino, absinthe, curacoa, gin, Hollands, Kirsch, Kirschwasser, and oil of cognac, or any similar artificial aromas or essences.

Trade Marks and Trade Descriptions.

In the Federal House of Representatives on September 7th, Mr. Kelly, M.P., asked the Prime Minister the following questions:—

1. Does the Government intend to prohibit the use within the Commonwealth of trade marks and trade descriptions originally owned by subjects of countries now at war with the British Empire?

2. Does the Government propose to invite the attention of the British Government, and, through it, of the allied Governments, to this matter?

Mr. Hughes stated the answers to the honorable member's questions are as follow:—

1. The use within the Commonwealth of the enemy trade marks which have been suspended has already been prohibited by the Parliament of the Commonwealth.

2. Yes.

Condensed Milk and Price Cutting.

Before the Interstate Commission on September 11th, Mr. J. N. Williams, secretary of the Grocers' Association of Victoria, gave evidence to the effect that grocers were violently complaining about the small profits they made on condensed milk. The grocers' overhead expense all round was 20 per cent., calculated on selling prices. During April of this year Nestle's booked orders for a line of condensed milk, described as a 6½d. line, which was quoted to grocers at 6s. 1½d. per dozen. When it was found that the tins were to be branded in print "6½d.," the grocers realised that it would be practically impossible to get more than that for them, though it only gave them a profit of 3.7 per cent., or less than one-third of their 20 per cent. overhead cost. On 13th April the association wrote to Nestle's company protesting against the introduction of the line on such terms. A meeting of the trade was called, and on 25th April it was decided that grocers should cancel their orders for that line, on the ground that they had not been notified that 6½d. would be printed on the label when they gave their orders. Nestle's then suggested that the printed price on the label should be altered to 7d., and undertook to increase the wholesale price from 24s. 6d. to 25s. 6d. per case. That would have given the grocers a gross profit of only 8.9 per cent. The grocers therefore informed Nestle's that the line would not be handled if any price were printed on the tins. As a result the line was not put on the Melbourne market. The grocers objected to chemists, a class who did not pay employees the same rates of wages as themselves, being supplied by Nestle's at special prices with condensed milk. A couple of chemists in the suburbs had been selling condensed milk at 32s. the case, while grocers were being charged for it 33s. per case. The grocers believed that those chemists were being supplied at a special rate in order that they might be able to break down the grocers' selling price.

The Chairman: You think it was a disciplinary measure?

Witness: Yes. It was done, apparently, to force grocers to sell condensed milk at a low price. There were spasmodic outbreaks of under-selling in the suburbs, which the grocers thought resulted from concessions in the price of condensed milk made by the Nestle Company to particular persons to promote cheap quotations for condensed milk all round.

To Mr. Mann (who appeared on behalf of Nestle's Company), witness said the grocers had recently got rid of a clause in their agreement with the Nestle's Company by which they were required to sell a certain number of tins of milk of other brands before they could receive a supply of Nestle's condensed milk. He could not swear that chemists had been supplied at cut rates, but he had been informed that Nestle's travellers had been overheard to tell chemists that they would be supplied at rates which would allow them to break down the grocers' trade.

A. C. Hargrove, general manager of Nestle's Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., in Australia, deposed that his company had not given any special price concessions to chemists. All the company's customers got milk at the same price, subject to bonuses in graduated amount according to the number of cases purchased within a year. He had given directions that the two chemists referred to by the last witness should be seen about the cheap rate at which they were selling condensed milk, and remonstrated with on behalf of the Nestle Company. He found that one of those chemists by his sales had qualified for a bonus from Nestle's.

Embargo on Soap.

Mr. William Lewis, Stafford House, 316 Pitt Street, Sydney, writing to the "Herald" on September 15th, stated:—

"At the present moment toilet and shaving soaps are allowed to be imported into Australia when manufactured in Great Britain or any of the Allied countries, with the single exception of the United States.

"On April 13 I addressed the following communication to the Comptroller of Customs at Melbourne:—

> "Embargo on Soap.—We understand that because of France being one of our Allies, toilet and shaving soaps may be imported into the Commonwealth from that country.
>
> "In view of the recent changed attitude of the United States, am I justified in assuming that the embargo on the admission of soaps of this character into the Commonwealth no longer applies to the United States?

"A few days afterwards I received a reply to the effect that the matter had been under consideration, but that it was decided to take no steps in the direction of lifting the embargo. On May 24, I again wrote the Minister for Customs on the same matter, and received a reply, which I quote:—

"The position is as stated in the Comptroller-General's communication to Mr. Lewis, dated April 17, i.e., importation cannot at present be allowed.

"When America joined her men, money and resources with the Allies, it was assumed by myself and other local representatives of soaps of American manufacture, that the embargo on these goods would be lifted. From the correspondence above quoted, such is evidently not the intention of the Government. It would be interesting to know the reason for this discrimination."

Mr. J. A. Jensen, Minister for Customs, informed the "Herald" representative that the Australian Customs Department, in its attitude was complying with a request of the British Government. The Department was in communication with the Imperial authorities on the subject. The matter was being considered with a view of doing everything possible for the Australian merchant.

Personal & Business.

Properly authenticated paragraphs, preferably sent by the persons interested, are inserted under this heading

New South Wales.

Mr. Brennan, of Mosman, has closed his pharmacy.

Mr. H. D. B. Cox, who met with a severe accident recently, is rapidly recovering.

Mr. F. P. J. Gray has been spending a week in Jenner Hospital. He is now in much better health.

Dr. W. G. Armstrong has been appointed Deputy Director-General of Public Health to the Health Department of New South Wales.

Mr. Syd. May, formerly of May and Burgess, of Manly, was entertained by some Manly friends prior to his leaving Sydney on military service.

Mr. J. H. Maiden, I.S.O., Government Botanist, says that of the various noxious weeds in New South Wales, only one is indigenous to the country.

Business catalogues issued by Sydney wholesale houses are being revised to meet new postal conditions. A deputation recently waited on Mr. Webster on this matter, but got no satisfaction.

Dr. Paul de Lepervanche, of Narrabri, serving in the A.A.M.C., as lieutenant, abroad, was recently reported as killed in action. The report was incorrect, as Dr. Lepervanche, though wounded, remained on duty.

Mr. George Davis has purchased the pharmacy of Mr. Laurence at Gosford. He was recently a dispenser at the military camp at Menangle; prior to this he was dispenser to the Granville U.F.S. Dispensary for some years.

Dr. Bartley, of Broken Hill, told the strikers of that town recently that if they called the sanitary service of the municipality out they would be guilty of the death of many children and others owing to the spread of disease arising from insanitary conditions.

Classes in Japanese have been started at the Sydney University. Mr. James Murdock, M.A., is the instructor. He was formerly assistant Professor in Greek at the Aberdeen University, and is on the staff of Duntroon Military College. He is the author of a History of Japan.

Mr. Adam Forster, who has made a beautiful collection of water colour paintings of Australian wild flowers, especially those indigenous to the neighbourhood of Sydney, has added several new paintings to his collection this Spring season. Few pharmacists suspect Mr. Forster of being an artist of considerable ability

Sydney Death Rate was abnormally low for the month of August. The rate was 1026 per 1000, or 15 per cent. below the average for August for the average of the past five years.

Methylated Spirit has been at boom prices in Sydney of late. As much as half a crown a quart has been charged for it in the suburban shops. Spirit stoves of every description have been selling at top prices during the strike time, owing to the interruption of the early morning gas supply..

Interrupted Lectures.—In consequence of the failure of the gas supply, the chemistry students of the Sydney Technical College have had to discontinue their practical work. It is expected that they will resume this work shortly. Last year a considerable amount of students' time was lost by reason of the strikes, and some students will be put back a whole year in consequence of these interruptions to their studies.

Vincent Montgomery, described as a chemist, and said to have recently arrived from Melbourne, was found lying on the footpath in Young-street, near the Hotel Metropole, about 1.15 on the morning of September 5th. He was badly injured, and on removal to the Sydney Hospital was found to be dead. There was no evidence as to how he came by the injuries, but it is surmised that he fell out of his bedroom window at the hotel.

Dr. H. Tasman Lovel, Acting-Professor of Psychology to the University of Sydney, gave an interesting lecture on "Personality" to the Business Efficiency Club at the Chamber of Commerce recently. He laid emphasis on the necessity of personal influence in the successful management of men.

The Amateur Doctor in the National Workers' Camp at the Sydney Cricket Ground among the free labourers caused a considerable amount of amusement. He felt the pulse, looked at the tongue, and prescribed a draught said to be made up of sugar and water. But his chief method of treatment was a hot bath, which he ordered to every "patient" who was brought before him, and whom he thought would be better for a good wash.

Elliott Brothers' Chemical Works employees went on strike because they were called upon to handle "black" goods. The material employed had been unloaded by free labour. About 300 men are said to have knocked off work. The Court cancelled the agreement between Elliott Brothers Limited and the labourers, and free labour is being engaged to take the place of all the strikers, who will probably not be re-employed.

Strychnia Poisoning.—The Parramatta District Coroner held an enquiry into the cause of death of Fred. G. Sidnay on September 12th. Deceased died from the effects of strychnia, and a packet of this poison was found in his pocket. He had been living in the country, and been suffering from melancholia. He recently came to Sydney, and died at his mother's residence at Auburn. His home was at Coraki, and it is said that he obtained the poison in that town for the purpose of rabbit poisoning. A verdict of suicide was returned.

Glass Blowers' Strike.—The glass blowers in Sydney resumed work on September 18th, after a "sympathy strike." It is only recently that these men have had a strike on their own, and great dissatisfaction is expressed by consumers of bottles at the last cessation of work. As a result still larger orders for glass bottles have been cabled to Japan. Such orders will seriously interfere with the future placing of orders for bottles in the Australian glass works. Unfortunately the men are not the only losers by this diversion of the trade. The Japanese are not cutting the price so much as they are guaranteeing regular supplies at the prices quoted.

Fire at a Chemical Works.—An extensive fire took place on September 6th, at the Biturine-Lavers' Chemical Works, Flora-street, Erskineville. The fire is said to have broken out in the neighbourhood of the still-room, and but for the prompt action of one of the engineers in shutting the fire-doors, the whole place would have been burnt down. The fire was confined to the still-rooms, and to the separate store-rooms: the main building and the offices escaped the fire. Damage was done to the extent of about £4000, which was partially covered by insurance. The fire was kept from spreading by the energetic action of a number of fire brigades from all parts of Sydney, and the new tar well, said to hold 30,000 gallons of crude tar, was saved. This receptacle was only recently completed and filled. The work in this factory consists chiefly in distilling tar, and utilising the bye-products. An extensive industry is growing up, and the demand for the products of this factory has greatly increased since the war began.

Victoria.

Mr. R. H. McBurney is assisting Mr. C. H. Yelland, of Carlton.

Mr. W. J. Bowen is relieving Mr. J. J. Cunningham, of Echuca.

Mr. B. D. McAlary has accepted a position with Mr. E. L. Fisher.

Mr. E. T. P. Davies is managing Mr. A. S. Cohn's business at Camberwell.

Mr. J. A. Kay has been relieving Mr. S. Eva, Williamstown, for three weeks.

Mr. R P. Francis, of Messrs. Duerdin & Sainsbury, was married on September 20.

Mr. J. F. Dentry has been appointed head dispenser at the Flemington Dispensary.

Mr. E. Norton Grimwade returned to Melbourne early in the month, via Vancouver.

Miss Lilian Breem has accepted a position on the dispensing staff of Messrs. H. Francis and Co.

Mr. V. S. Lalor, formerly of Yarram, has purchased the business of Mr. B. Farrar, Daylesford.

Miss H. Jacobson is relieving Miss Gough, manager of the late John McBurney's business at Kilmore.

Mr. Charles Thom has been relieving Mr. R. Cheesman, of Beaufort, and also Mr. H. Cooper, of Maffra.

Mr. Albert Koch has been appointed analyst to the Metropolitan Chemists' Association, and the Grocers' Association of Victoria.

Mr. G. R. Miller has been relieving Mr. Guenther, of Numurkah, and is now relieving Mr. N. G. Musther, of Williamstown.

Mr. R. J. Roche has relinquished his position as registered pharmacist in charge of the pharmacy of Messrs. Bain and Co., St. Kilda.

Mr. T. A. C. Sayle, of Sandringham, has engaged Mr. V. C. Savage, who has just returned from the war after two years' service, suffering from shell shock.

Mr. W. G. Ross, who recently purchased Mr. D. Anderson's business at Bendigo, has re-sold to Mr. J. Chisholm, manager of Wilkinson's Pharmacy, Maryborough.

Mr. B. Farrer, of Daylesford, has sold his business to Mr. V. S. Lalor, and has purchased the old-established business of Mr. James Lacey, Bourke-street.

Mr. E. H. Lewis has relinquished his position at the North Carlton Dispensary, and has taken over the management of Messrs. Bain and Co.'s business, St. Kilda.

Mr. Clement L. Bourdic, pharmacist, Spencer-street, Melbourne, deceased, left real estate valued at £2107, and personal estate valued at £2747, to his widow and child.

Mr. W. Wiseman has accepted a position at the Collingwood Free Dispensary. He has had pharmaceutical experience in France, Buenos Ayres, and New York.

Mr. A. W. Madge has returned from his trip to North Queensland. He is spending a few days in Adelaide before taking up business again. Mr. D. Shaw was managing during his absence.

Mr. J. R. Blennerhassett, pharmacist, Benalla, was married at Bendigo on September 12. During his absence, Mr. M. F. Nugent, late of Elmore, is managing his business.

Altson's Pharmacy, chemists, 109 Brighton-road, St. Kilda, was registered under the Firms Act, on 13th September, 1917. Sole proprietor, Dora Altson, pharmaceutical chemist.

Masonic.—Bro. Fred. Lee, pharmacist, Prahran, is the Worshipful Master-elect of the Windsor Lodge. The installation ceremony will take place at the Rechabite Hall, Clarence-street, Prahran, on September 27.

Cr. J. C. Pickford, the retiring member for Prahran Ward, was opposed at the August municipal elections by Sergt. Morey, a returned soldier. The voting was—Pickford, 1108; Morey, 803; majority for Pickford, 305.

Mr. V. F. Montgomery, who was accidentally killed in Sydney on September 4, was studying for pharmacy in Victoria. He was apprenticed to Mr. J. A. Kruse, Hawthorn, in May, 1911, and attended the College lectures in 1913.

The Dispensaries.—Richmond dispensary on June 30 had on the books 7,275 members, a decrease of 47 on previous quarter. Prescriptions dispensed during the quarter numbered 18,018, representing 27,099 articles. Cash sales totalled £115 3s. 11d. (increase £26 7s. 4d.). The levy for the quarter was fixed at 2s. Collingwood and Fitzroy dispensary for the year ended 5th July, 1917, reduced its overdraft by £359. Receipts were £4739, and expenses £4380. The levies totalled 9s. for the year. Membership, 9479 (decrease 165); prescriptions, 176,250 (209,130 previous year); bottles sent out, 117,039 (previous year, 139,827); cash sales for the year totalled £278. The drug bill totalled £1904, salaries of dispensers and boy £1164. Surplus of assets over liabilities, £5144. Stock is valued at £720. South Melbourne dispensary has 5546 members (increase 749). Higher prices of drugs has caused the expenses to reach the highest in the history of the institution. The quarterly levy was fixed at 2s., an increase of 3d.

Queensland.

Mr. F. C. Moore, manager of the Southport Pharmacy, was recently married.

Miss Just is temporarily managing the A.F.S. Dispensary, Mount Morgan, in the absence of the manager.

Mr. J. Kelleher, manager of the Friendly Society's Dispensary, Mount Morgan, has had another relapse of illness.

Mr. G. Taylor has left the A.F.S. Dispensary, Ipswich, and has been appointed manager of the London Pharmacy of that town.

Mr. S. Dexter has severed his connection after 21 years with Messrs. Taylor and College, and has gone to Mr. T. Luddy, Edward-street, Brisbane.

Mr. J. Chalmers, of Alex. Wilson and Co., has been in Brisbane during the month. Mr. Chalmers, as well as his partner, are welcome visitors when they come north.

Mr. G. J. Page, of Bundaberg, was taken ill while in Brisbane, and was removed to the Mater Misericorde Hospital. He is now convalescing at the sea-side.

Mr. F. C. Allen, of Ipswich, has taken Mr. J. C. Minnis into partnership. They have purchased the City Pharmacy formerly owned by Captain T. F. Hall. The firm will be known in future as F. C. Allen and Co.

Trade Notes.

German Patents in America.

Strong pressure is being brought to bear upon the Government to annul foreign-held patents on medicines and appliances used in the treatment of disease. German patents for chemical processes, which were liberally granted before the war, are particularly aimed at. Many manufacturers urge the complete annulment of these patents. It is recognised, however, that this course might entail reprisals in Germany against American patents. This opens up the question of the moral responsibility of the Government to protect the rights of American inventors whose rights it is asserted should not be jeopardised by any precipitate action in the direction suggested.

Clements Tonic Limited, Sydney, have, up to the present, been successful in keeping the Victorian market well supplied with their product. Prior to the absolute cessation of shipping in consequence of the strike, fairly large consignments were forwarded to Melbourne by steamer. Towards the end of August, rather than run the risk of shortage, they despatched a ten-ton truck by rail. Any further requirements to keep the markets going will be sent in this way. Although this method of transit has proved expensive, the company has decided to bear the increased cost itself.

The Australian Drug Co. (Sydney): —

June.	Profits.	Dividends	To Reserves	Reserves.
1911 ..	£4766	5 p.c.=£3750	£1016	£10,252
1912 ..	3419	5 ,, ,, 3750	——	9,921
1913 ..	8572	10 ,, ,, 7500	1072	10,993
1914 ..	8875	10 ,, ,, 7500	1375	12,368
1915 ..	8921	10 ,, ,, 7500	1421	13,789
1916 ..	9885	10 ,, ,, 7500	2385	16,174
1917 ..	9985	10 ,, ,, 7500	2485	18,659

This company is doing its bit, and is nowadays something better than an importer of drugs and chemicals. There is, among other things, a well-equipped factory at Chippendale for the scientific handling of raw materials; here, for example, various cod-liver oil preparations are turned out, equal, it is claimed, to any imported. Certainly, the law sees to it that the materials are pure when they are used, and the public can have an assurance that the contents are also reasonably fresh when the bottle is uncorked. The company started under unusually favourable conditions. The business had for years been short of capital. What it needed was supplied by people who had plenty of it; and not a penny was paid for goodwill. A year or two were spent in building and reorganisation; then the company began to make the profits which had been figured on. And probably a bit more; for the company, having large ambitions, had stocked heavily, and the sudden outbreak of war is hardly likely to have done its profits any harm. It had the good luck to be just ready for the opportunity that came its way. Its share capital (£75,000) being insufficient, it raised £25,000 on debentures. "To strengthen the financial position," the directors put it, they propose now to pay off this debt, and issue 25,000 new £1 shares at par on January 1 next. These are to be offered pro rata to present shareholders; payment in full is to be made before the end of this year, "so that all shares will rank equally for dividends from January 1, 1918." There is very little doubt that a 10 per cent. dividend is at least hoped for. During the past four years the profit, including the 5 per cent. interest on debentures, has been in excess of the amount required to pay 10 per cent. on the £100,000: and there is good reason to believe that, in valuing stocks, etc., liberal provision has been made for contingencies. And every year the disclosed profit has shown an increase. Apart from the debenture debt the liabilities total £37,751. Finance seems to be an easy problem: in addition to £52,023 in book debts, there are cash balances and other liquid assets £10,601. Other assets include stock, £75,034, and freehold, plant and fixtures £18,158. Though additions have been made to these latter every year and especially during the past year, they stand now at about £2000 less than in 1914—which is a further hint of a conservative policy of writing-down. — "Bulletin," 30/8/17.

Phosferine.—A notification appears elsewhere in this issue relative to Messrs. Ashton and Parsons' trade mark "Phosferine." Pharmacists are notified that when "Phosferine" is asked for, Messrs. Ashton and Parsons, must be supplied and that the supply of any other preparation is a contravention of the firm's rights.

Market Reports.

Messrs. Elliott Bros. Ltd., Sydney, in their September market report, state:—"Trade during August has been depressed in consequence of the strike. Visitors from the country have been few, and have been disinclined to spend, in consequence of the difficulty of transit of goods."

All Galenicals have risen in price in proportion to the percentage of alcohol that they contain. This advance is of great importance to the trade.

Cotton Wools have advanced, and stocks are low. S. and J., and J. and J. are 3/9 per lb.; S. and J. Hospital Wool, 2/9 per lb.; Southall's, 2/6 per lb.; Lee's, 3/- per lb.

Lints.—S. and J. and J. and J., 4/-; Southall's, 3/3 per lb. All *Gauzes* and *Bandages* have likewise advanced.

Chemicals generally are on the rise. The following are the most noteworthy:—

Ammon. Carb., 1/4 per lb.; 14 lbs., 1/3. Original cases of 2 cwt., 1/2 per lb.

Pot. Permang., has risen to 17/- per lb.

Hydrochloric Acid is now 4d. per lb. by the winchester quart, 3½d. per 2-gal. jar.

Boracic Acid, 1/4 per lb.; 14 lbs., 1/3; 130/- per cwt. *Borax* is 9d. per lb., 14 lbs. 8d.; 70/- cwt.

Rectified Spirit is 5/- per pint; 37/- per gal.; 5 gals., 36/-. *Absolute Alcohol* is now 8/- per lb.

Bromides.—Ammonia, 9/-; Soda, 8/-; Potas., 10/-; Citric Acid, 4/3; Cream Tar., 3/3; Tartaric Acid, 3/9; Tannic Acid, 11/- per lb.

Soda Cicarb., Brunner Mond's, 5d. per lb.; 14 lbs., 4½d; Chance's, 7d. per lb.

Strychnia Sulphate (Soluble), 8/6 per oz.

Cotton Seed and *Ground Nut* Oil are now 15/- per gal.

Adeps. Prep. is 1/9; *Adeps. Benz.*, 3/- per lb.

Essential Oils are on the rise. Ol. Santal. Horner's, 4/- per oz.; 60/- per lb. Ol. Cubebs., 2/8 per oz.; 38/- per lb. Ol. Betulæ, 10/6 per lb.

Epsom Salts, Morton's, 4/6 per 7-lb. box, or 65/- per cwt.

Perfumery has advanced in consequence of advanced spirit duty.

Fellowe's Syrup.—Small, 43/-; large, 72/- doz.

Pink Twine is 5/6 per lb.

Savaresse's Santal Caps, 56/- per doz.

Gum Myrrhe, 3/- per lb.

Hewlett's Misturae are now 17/- per lb.

Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co., Melbourne, in their September Prices Current, append a list of preparations which have been advanced, owing to the increased duty on spirits.

Other alterations reported are as follow:—

Acid. Benzoic., B.P.—4/- oz.
Acid Carb., 98 per cent.—7/- gal.
Acid Hydrobrom., conc.—8/- lb.
Acid, Sulph., Aromatic.—6/9 lb.
Aether, Acetic.—6/- lb.
Alcohol Absolutum.—8/6 lb.
Alcohol Amylic, chem. pure.—8/- lb.
Ammon. Chlor., B.P.—1/6 lb.
Aquæ. conc., Robinson's.—All 6d. lb. advance.
Argenti Nit., crystals, B.P.—3/6 oz.
Arsenic, Alb., pulv., 1 lb. tins, 10½d. lb.
Caffein, B.P.—4/6 oz.
Cera Alb., B.P.—3/9 lb.
Ext. Cascara Sag., Liq., B.P.—3/3 lb.
Ext. Damianæ, Liq.—9d. oz.; 10/6 lb.
Ext. Glycyrrh., Liq.—6/- lb.; wrs., 5/9 lb.
Ext. Ipecac., Liq., B.P.—2/6 oz.
Ext. Nucis Vom., Liq.—8/6 lb.
Ferri Ammon. Cit.—6/- lb.
Ferri Iodid.—3/- oz.
Glycerinum Acidi Tannici.—4/6 lb.
Liq. Carmine.—7/6 lb.
Liq. Ergotæ, Battley's.—30/- lb.
Liq. Potass., B.P.—1/6 lb.; wrs., 1/3 lb.
Liq. Pruni Virg., pro Syrup.—3/6 lb.
Liq. Sarsæ Co., conc., 5/-. lb.; wrs., 4/6 lb.
Liq. Senegæ, conc., B.P.—6/6 lb.
Liq. Senegæ, pro Infusion.—9/6 lb.
Ol. Aurant. Dulc.—1/6 oz.; 20/- lb.
Ol. Cocoanut, in jars (jars extra).—1/1 lb.
Ol. Cottonseed.—15/- gal.; 8-gal. cases, 14/6 gal.
Ol. Lini.—7/3 gal.; 4-gal. tins, 7/- gal.
Ol. Olivæ, Australian.—23/- gal.
Ol. Peanut, 12/6 gal.
Phenacetin.—8/6 oz.
Phosphorus.—4-oz. bots., 2/6 each; ½-lb. bots., 4/3 each; 1-lb. bots., 6/9 lb.; 10-lb. bots., 6/6 lb.
Potassii Bitart., pulv.—3/3 lb.
Potassii Permang.—11d. oz.; 14/- lb.
Pulv. Lobelia Co.—3/6 lb.
Rad. Gentianæ, incis.—2/3 lb.
Resina, Alb., B.P.—6d. lb.
Sato Mollis, coml. 1 lb. tins, 10d. each.
Sodii Bicarb., B.P.—7d. lb., 52/- cwt.
Succus Bellad.—6/3 lb.
Succus Glycyrrh., Morena.—2/9 lb.
Succus Glycyrrh., Solazzi.—3/6 lb.
Succus Hyoscyami.—6/3 lb.
S. V. Rect.—38/- gal.; 5 gals., 37/- gal.
Tabellæ Saccharine, gr. ½.—160/- lb.
Tinct. Colchici, B.P.—7/- lb.
Tinct. Strophanthi.—7/6 lb.
Zinci Benzoas.—3/6 oz.
Zinci Oxid.—1/6 lb.
Zinci.—Valerian, B.P.—6/- oz.

Trade Mark Applications.

Class 2. Chemical Substances, Disinfectants, etc.

Yum Yum.—Fly gum, etc., H. G. Foletta and Co., North Carlton.

Death on Flies, Stick-Fast Fly-Paper.—H. G. Foletta and Co., North Carlton.

Jeysol.—Disinfectants. John Ferguson and Co., 34 Queen-street, Melbourne.

Class 3. Chemicals used in Medicine and Pharmacy.

Amaral.—Hudson's Pharmacy, 551 King-street, Newton, New South Wales.

Aspro (Nicholas).—Geo. R. Nicholas and Co., 325 Flinders-lane, Melbourne. manufacturing chemists.

Diarsenol. — Ernest Neil Macallum and Charles Newton Candee, Jun., trading as Synthetic Drug Co., Toronto, York, Ontario, Canada.

Class 4. Perfumery, Soaps, Toilet, Articles, etc.

Medicated Soap.—J. Kitchen and Sons, 10 Queen-street, Melbourne.

Thy-lyptus.—Sayers, Allport Prop. Ltd., 55 Macquarie-street, Sydney.

QUEENSLAND PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

Brief Note on the Queensland Preliminary Examination held on Wednesday, 5th September, 917, by J. J. Walsh, Esq., B.A.

LATIN.—Translation cannot very well be compared with the Victorian translation, as it is set from a different text book; it seems, however, to be rather more difficult. The questions in Grammar in the principal parts of the Latin verb, and the Genitive singular, and meaning of the Latin nouns, is fairly equal to the same questions in the Victorian paper.

Question 3 represents a fairly long test in translation into English at sight, which has no equivalent in the Victorian paper.

Question 4 gives in addition to questions A, B, C, which are about fairly equal to the corresponding questions on the Victorian paper, another long question D, of translation into Latin. This places the papers on a higher level than the Victorian Latin paper.

ENGLISH.—The book prescribed is different from that prescribed in Victoria.

Question 3 requires meanings of words to be given and also words to be parsed, neither of which are required in our paper.

The analysis seems to be slightly more difficult than that which we set, while the allusions are perhaps much on the same scale.

ARITHMETIC.—Except that the Queensland paper does not require questions to be set on the metrical system of weights and measures, it is fairly level with the Victorian standard.

ALGEBRA. This paper is distinctly more difficult than the standard set down in Victoria, as it requires quadratic equations and problems.

GEOMETRY. Is also distinctly more difficult than the Victorian paper, requiring more original work.

JAMES CLEZY, M.A.,
Preliminary Examiner for the Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

September Examination Questions.

Preliminary Examination.

LATIN (Time allowed: Three hours).—1. Translate either of the given pieces from Caesar or from Virgil.

2. Parse fully the words printed in italics in the passages translated.

3. Decline throughout, giving meaning and gender of nouns, meaning of adjectives and pronouns—
Nouns — carmen, lux, vulpes; adjectives — utilis, minor, simplex; pronouns — quidam, iste.

4. Give in columns for the following nouns meaning, gender, genitive and ablative, singular and plural—Ratis, sedile, comes, nemus, grex.

5. (a) Give the meaning and comparison of the adjectives—acer, constans, levis, parvus, magnificus, vetus; and of the adverbs—amanter, commode, dulce, male, magnopere.
(b) Give Latin for 12, 13th, 20 times, 750, 1000 sheep, 4000 horse-soldiers, two camps.

6. Explain, with an instance of each — Indirect statement, indirect question, objective genitive; and give two ways of expressing in Latin, "The boy is stronger than the girl."

7. (a) Give principal parts and meanings of — cognosco, frango, tollo, vinco, vincio, pario, ulcisor, utor, vereor.
(b) Give also the present infinitive passive and future participle active of these verbs where used.
(c) Write out in full—
Perfective subjunctive active of cado.
Future indicative passive of occido.
Present subjunctive of prosum.
Future perfect indicative of possum.
Future indicative of tollo.
Imperative active of eo.

8. Translate into Latin—
(a) We all hope that the Allies will conquer in this war.
(b) Some think that the war will be ended this year.
(c) Many kings are afraid that they may lose their kingdoms.

ARITHMETIC (Time allowed: Two hours and a half).—1. Simplify—

$$1\tfrac{1}{11} - \frac{1 - \frac{7}{32}}{2 - \frac{1}{3}} + \frac{1\frac{2}{5}}{3\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{5\frac{5}{8}}{6\frac{1}{4}} \text{ of } \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}}{4\frac{3}{4} - 3\frac{2}{9}}\right).$$

2. Divide—
$\frac{.052}{1.3}$ of 1.56 by $\frac{.624}{14.4}$ of 25.92.

3. Find the least factor by which 2401245 must be multiplied to become a perfect square.

4. A trader gains 10 per cent. by selling wine at 49s. 6d. per dozen; what will he gain per cent. if he raises the price to 57s.?

5. Divide £5 among three persons so that the first may get 12s. 6d. more than the second and the second 17s. 6d. more than the third.

6. At what rate per cent., simple interest, will £183 6s. 8d. amount to £230 1s. 8d. in 5 years and 8 months?

7. A bankrupt owes 1-3rd. of his debts to A and 1-5th to B. To all his other creditors he owes £160 less than to A and B together. Find his total debt.

8. 18 kilometres 72 decametres 18 decimetres 7 centimetres 5 millimetres is multiplied by 7; 9 kilometres 5 hectometres 55 metres 15 centimetres 5 millimetres is divided by 5. Find the difference in the results in metres.

9. Express a chain in metres to the nearest tenth of a metre.

10. The specific gravity of silver is 10.47. Find how many grammes 17 cubic decimetres of silver will weigh.

ENGLISH (Time allowed: Two hours).—1. Write an essay on—
(a) Arguments for and against Compulsory Service Abroad;
(b) The Post Office; or
(c) Town and Country Life compared.

2. Give the general and detailed analysis of the following passage:—"So, in coming to a place where we have formerly lived, and with which we have intimate associations, every one of us must have found that the feeling grows more vivid the nearer he approaches the spot, and that memories of circumstances he has not thought of for years suddenly rush into his mind."

3. Point out and correct, with reasons, all errors in the following sentences:—
(a) Without regular employment, he is one of those men who is lost.
(b) His face was so covered up that nothing but his eyes were visible.
(c) They are so blinded by prejudice that they cannot hear the voice of reason.
(d) My time is somewhat limited, only being able to devote about three hours a day to study.

4. (a) How did Quentin Durward distinguish himself at the boar hunt?
(b) Describe his journey to Liege with the Countesses of Croye.
(c) Who were Glorieux, Galeotti, and Crevecoeur? Briefly narrate the part each takes in the story.

5. Who were the authors of "L'Allegro," "The Progress of Poesy," and "The Education of Nature"? State concisely the subject of each of these pieces.

6. Give the meaning of each of these extracts, with the context, stating the author of the piece from which it is taken—
(a) Then to the well-trod stage anon
If Jonson's learned sock is on.
(b) But, O sad Virgin, that thy power
Might wake Musaeus from his bower.
(c) What time where lucid Avon strayed
To him the mighty mother did unveil
Her awful face.
(d) Say not Good Night, but in some brighter clime
Bid me Good Morning.

7. Write out from memory—
(a) The Loss of the Royal George (Cowper).
(b) The Light of Other Days (Moore).

ALGEBRA (Time allowed: Two hours).—1. Find the continual product of

$$a + 2b + 3c,\ -a + 2b + 3c,\ a - 2b + 3c,\ a + 2b - 3c.$$

2. Divide—
$x^3 - 8y^3 + 27z^3 + 18xyz$ by $x - 2y + 3z$.

3. Reduce to lowest terms—

$$\frac{x^3 + 4x^2 - 47x - 210}{x^3 + 3x^2 - 58x - 240}$$

4. Simplify—

(i) $$\frac{1}{a(a-b)(a-c)} + \frac{1}{b(b-c)(b-a)} + \frac{1}{c(c-b)(c-a)}$$

(ii) $$\left\{\frac{a^3 + b^3}{a^3 - b^3} + \frac{a^3 - b^3}{a^3 + b^3}\right\} \div \left\{\frac{a+b}{a-b} + \frac{a-b}{a+b}\right\}.$$

5. Find the factors of—
(i) $amx^2 + bmxy - anxy - bny^2$.
(ii) $15x^2 + 224x - 15$.
(iii) $(x - 7y + z)^2 - (7y - z)^2$.
(iv) $1000y^3 - 1$.

6. Solve the equation—

$$\frac{x+3}{x+6} - \frac{x+6}{x+9} = \frac{x+2}{x+5} - \frac{x+5}{x+8}$$

7. Solve the simultaneous equations—

$$\frac{x}{3} + \frac{y}{4} = 3x - 7y - 37 = 0.$$

8. Solve the quadratic equation—

$$\frac{x+1}{x+2} + \frac{x+2}{x+1} = \frac{26}{5}$$

9. I bought some engravings at 35s. each, and some books at 16s. each. The total cost was £16 15s.; and the number of books was five more than that of the engravings. How many were there of each?

GEOMETRY (Time allowed: Two hours).—Eight questions from the first book and four from the second are set, but candidates are not required to work the whole paper. Any ten questions correctly answered will secure full marks. Any three questions correctly done from the first book, together with any two from the second, will be considered a pass.

Book I. 1. If two triangles have two sides and the included angle in one equal to the corresponding parts in the other, the triangles shall be equal in all respects.

2. If two angles of a triangle are equal to one another, the sides opposite the equal angles shall be equal to each other.

3. Show how to bisect a given straight line.

4. ABC is a triangle, and BC is produced to D. Prove that the angle ACD is greater than the angle BAC.

5. If, in any triangle, one of two sides is greater than another, the angle which is opposite to the greater side will be greater than the angle which is opposite to the less.

6. The sum of any two sides of a triangle is greater than the third side.

7. Any three sides of a quadrilateral are together greater than the fourth side.

8. The straight lines which join the extremities of two equal and parallel straight lines are themselves equal and parallel.

Book II.—9. If there be two straight lines, one of which is divided into any number of parts, the rectangle contained by the two straight lines is equal to the sum of the rectangles contained by the undivided straight line and the several parts of the divided straight line.

10. If a straight line be divided into any two parts, the rectangle contained by the whole straight line and one part is equal to the square on that part together with the rectangle contained by the two parts.

11. If a straight line is bisected the square on the whole line is four times the square on half the line.

12. Show how to find a straight line, the square on which shall be equal to a given rectilineal figure.

Final Examination.

PRACTICAL PHARMACY.—Section I. (a): Written Work.—Examiner, Mr. A. E. Sayer.—Time allowed: Three hours.—1. (a) What is Pyroxylin? Give the B.P. method for preparing it. (b) What is the difference between Gun-cotton and Pyroxylin? What B.P. preparation is made from Pyroxylin?

2. Write an account of Opium, name the preparations into which it enters, and give doses of each. Give a list of the various alkaloids obtained from opium. How would you make a sale of Laudanum B.P. 1914?

3. What are the doses, incompatibilities, and solubilities in water of the following:—Phenazone, Antifebrin, Methyl Sulphonal, Calcii Lactas, Acid Salicylic, Acid Benzoic, Chloral Hydrate, Butyl Choral Hydrate, Cocaine Mur., Codein Phosph., Diamorphine Hydrochlor., Choral Formamide?

4. What weight of Strychnine would be contained in four ounces avoidupois of Extract Nucis Vomicae Siccum? Give your answer in metric and imperial weights.

5. (a) Show the difference between infusions and decoctions. Give examples of each. (b) Tinctura Cannabis Indicae is made with 90 per cent. alcohol. Tinct. Gentian Co. with 45 per cent. alcohol. Give the reasons for this difference in percentage of alcohol; also a few examples of tinctures made with other percentages.

6. Convert the following into Imperial measures:—6 centigrams, .3 milligrams, 18 centimils, 12 decimils, 10 decigrams; and the following into Metric measures:—1-100 grain, 5 minims, 10 grains, ½ fluid dram, 1 pint.

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7. Complete and translate the abbreviations—Cy. vinar., Hor. un. spat., Lat. dol., T. S., C. M. S.; and translate into Latin abbreviations—Take one tablespoonful in water every three hours if necessary. Two pills to be taken every night at bedtime.

8. How would you dispense the following:—

℞ Ichthyol gr. ii.
Ft. pil. Mitte tales xii.
Sig. i. ter die.

℞ Quin. Sulph. ℥ i.
Ammon. Carb. ℥ i.
Syr. Scillae ℥ i.
Aqua ad. ℥ viii.
℥ fs. every four hours.

℞ Acid Aceto Salicyl. grs. 80
Pot. Iodid. ℥ i. fs.
Spt. Eth. Nit. ℥ iv.
Pulv. Trag. Co. grs. 80
Aqua ad. ℥ viii.
℥ fs. ter die.

SECTION I. (b). — PRACTICAL DISPENSING AND PRESCRIPTION READING. — Examiners: Messrs. Balley, Buckhurst, and Gulliver.

No. 1. — PRACTICAL DISPENSING (Time allowed: Three hours). N.B.—It is expected that the work will be completed within the specified time. If the time allowed is exceeded, marks will be deducted.

1. ℞ Ac. Carbol. gr. i.
Ft. pll. Mitte xii.
Sig. i. t. d. s.

2 ℞ Gly. Amyli ℥ i.
Sig. Partibus affectis m. d. applic.

3. ℞ Syr. Ferri Phosph. c.
Quin. et Strych. ℥ viii.
Sig. ii. t. d. s. ex. aq. p. c.

4. ℞ Ol. Ricini ℥ iss.
Syr. Zingib. ℥ iv.
Aq. Cinnam ad. ℥ vi.
Ft. emulsio.
Sig. Cap. coch. mag. duo si opus sit.

5. ℞ Ung. Iodi ℥ i.
Sig. M. d. u. nocte maneque.

SECTION III. (a).—WRITTEN WORK.—Examiners: Mr. Sidney Plowman, F.R.C.S., and Mr. B. L. Standon (Time allowed: Three hours).—1. Describe sublimation, and discuss the conditions under which the sublimed product may be a crystalline mass, detached crystals, or a powder.

2. Why is valerianic acid called a fatty acid? Give a practical process, with equations, for the manufacture of Zinci Valerianas B.P. artificially.

3. Four millilitres of a sample of hydrochloric acid, having a specific gravity 1.162, require for neutralisation 41.2 millilitres of N/1 solution of sodium hydroxide. Calculate the percentage by weight of hydrogen chloride in the sample.
(H = 1.008, Cl = 35.46, Na = 23, O = 16.)

4. Give in some detail a method for determining the boiling point of a liquid, and one for finding the melting point of a solid.

5. Describe a process for making oil of vitriol of commerce, and illustrate, as far as possible, by equations the nature of the chemical changes involved.

6. Freshly precipitated moist ferric hydrate is said to be an antidote in poisoning by arsenic, and "a mixture of green sulphate of iron, solution of perchloride of iron, and either magnesia or carbonate of sodium" in poisoning by hydrocyanic acid or by potassium cyanide. Discuss the chemical changes in each case, and state how the freshly precipitated moist ferric hydrate may be made extemporaneously for the purpose.

7. Explain the production of Oleum Sinapis Volatile B.P. from black mustard seeds, and of "essence" of almonds from bitter almonds. What is the relation of the "essence" to benzoic acid?

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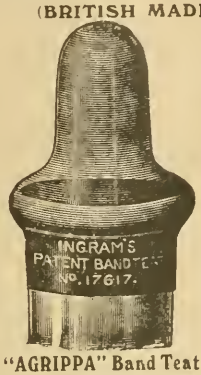

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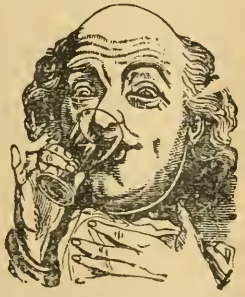

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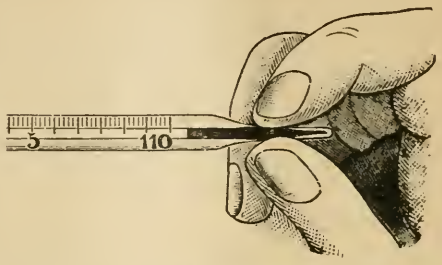

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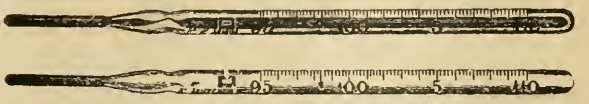

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MEDICAL ACT 1915, PART III.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

AS required by Section 95, Sub-section of the "Medical Act 1915," Part III., is held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, Swanston Street, Melbourne, in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

Next Examination: MONDAY and TUESDAY, 3rd and 4th December, 1917.

The following are the compulsory subjects:—

LATIN.—Grammar, accidence and syntax. Translation of simple sentences into Latin. Translation into English from Cæsar, De Bello, Gallico, Book I., Chapter 1-29, inclusive, or Vergil Aeneid, Book I., Lines 1-401, inclusive.

ENGLISH.—Grammar and Composition. Literature. The University Text Book in English.

TEXT BOOKS IN ENGLISH, 1917-18.

For the September and December, 1917, and the March and June, 1918, Examinations, the English Text Books will be Scott's "Quentin Durward," and selections from Palgrave's "Golden Treasury of English Lyrics." The following numbers from the Golden Treasury are prescribed, viz., Nos. 112, 113, 129*, 140, 165*, 174*, 179, 208*, 210*, 211*, 215*, 218*, 225*, 240*, 261*, 267, and 276. Selections marked with an asterisk require to be memorised.

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules, simple and compound; vulgar and decimal fractions; simple and compound proportion; profit and loss; simple and compound interest; true and commercial discount and present worth; extraction of square root; British and metrical system of weights and measures; problems relating to lineal, square and cubic measurements, averages.

ALGEBRA.—Notation, symbolic expressions, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Highest common factor and lowest common multiple. Fractions, cyclic order. Extraction of square root. Proof of algebraical identities. Simple equations of one and two variables. Quadratic equations of one variable. Equational problems.

GEOMETRY.—The substance of Euclid Books I. and II. Any recognised Text Book may be used.

Examination Fee, £1 1s.

EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.

The questions given at the examinations are published in the "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" for March, June, September and December in each year. 1s. a copy.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

MATERIA MEDICA, BOTANY, CHEMISTRY, AND PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.

THE EXAMINATION of Students who have attended the Lectures in the above subjects is held half-yearly. The next examination will be held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY on 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th October, 1917.

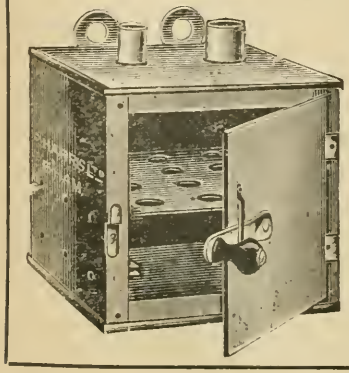
Examination Fee—Two Guineas.

Entries Close Friday, October 5th.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION.

The next FINAL EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY before the Board will be held at the College of Pharmacy on the 10th, 11th and 12th December, 1917.

Candidates must give ten days' written notice of their intention to present themselves. Indentures of Apprenticeship and the Certificates required by Sections 96 and 98 of "The Medical Act, 1915," Part III., must be lodged with the Registrar, and the Fee of Three Guineas paid ten days prior to the day of examination.



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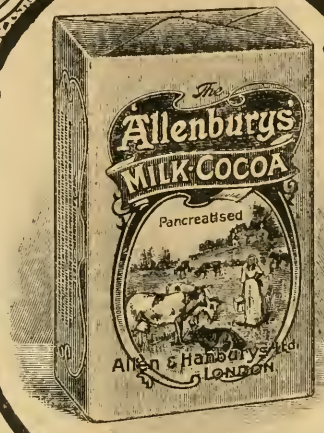

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Apprenticeship to a registered chemist in any part of the British Dominions is accepted by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, and entitles such apprentice to attend the College Lectures and qualify for the examinations.

The Old Collegians' Association provides for meetings of a social nature during the year, and promotes a good feeling among past and present students.

The Pharmaceutical Society presents two gold medals, three silver medals, three bronze medals, and three certificates of honour each year to the student securing the highest marks in the respective subjects. Special prizes are also given by the various lecturers.

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THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

The objects of the Society are, broadly, to advance the study of pharmacy in all its branches, to encourage the prosecution of pharmaceutical research, to promote mutual goodwill among those interested in pharmacy, and to aid in the advancement, generally, of the practice of Pharmacy.

HISTORY AND ACHIEVEMENTS.

Founded in 1857, the Society has a history of concerted work extending over 60 years. Its influence has always been exerted in protecting the interests of the craft from outside aggression, and a perusal of the records shows the large amount of useful work which the Society has achieved in this direction.

The Society was originally responsible for initiating the Formulary of Unofficial Remedies, which was the starting point from which the "AUSTRALASIAN PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULARY" has developed.

ORGANISATION.

The management of the Society is entrusted to a council of twelve members, who meet monthly, or oftener as required, and who devote a considerable amount of time and personal attention to the welfare of pharmacists generally.

EDUCATION.

An important part of the Society's work is to provide educational facilites for pharmaceutical students, and the College of Pharmacy is generally acknowledged as a high-class technical institution, and the position which it has attained has given pharmacists an improved status in the community. All students who have passed through the College should regard it as their pleasant duty to affiliate themselves with the Pharmaceutical Society, under whose auspices the College of Pharmacy has advanced to its present position.

THE LIBRARY.

Members have the advantage of the use of the Society's library which contains the latest standard publications relating to pharmacy, chemistry, analysis, botany and materia medica, and also the principal periodical pharmaceutical literature.

MEMBERSHIP.

Although supported largely by practising Pharmacists, there are a large number of Pharmacists actually in business who are not already members, and it is to these that this appeal is made to join the Society and not to allow a small section of the craft to bear the full burden of the work, the results of which are shared by all.

SUBSCRIPTION.

The entrance fee has been reduced to 10s. 6d.; the annual subscription is 21s., and for this sum every member has the privilege of assisting in the work of organisation and of receiving, post free, a copy of the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy* each month. The Journal is published at 10s. and contains an epitome of pharmaceutical news and other matter of general interest to pharmacists.

A Diploma of Membership is forwarded on election.

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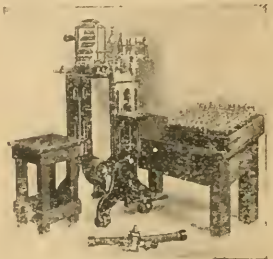

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THE NEXT PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION will be held 20th and 21st DECEMBER, 1917.

Authors for 1917 are—Scott's "Lady of the Lake." Canto 3, and Cæsar, de Bello Gallico, Book 5.

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